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do we care?

G2 with European weather

Education

Mega-university move in Derby

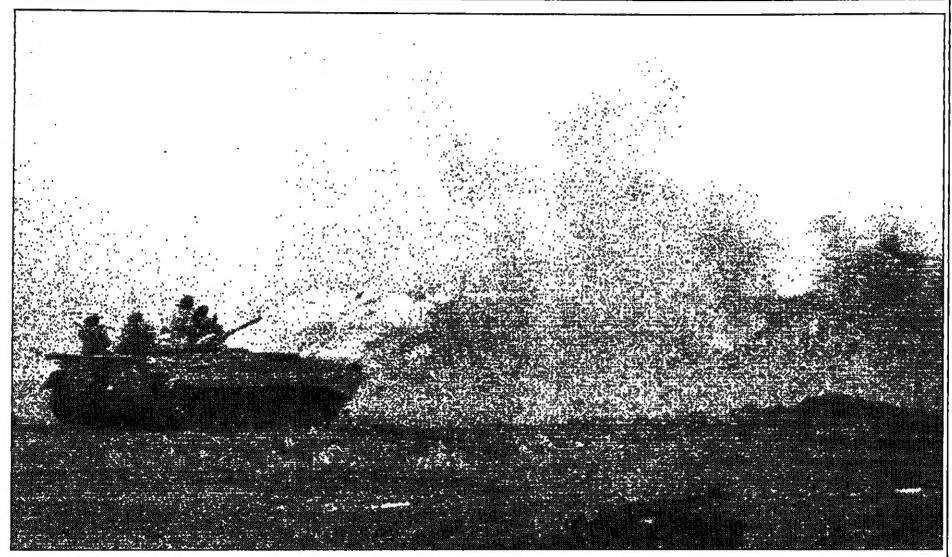
G2 pages 10/11

Almovodar's latest star

Marisa Paredes

G2 pages 8/9

Hostages die as street fighting follows bloody bombardment



tank closes on the burning village of Pervomayskaya, in Dagestan yesterday after heavy bombardment by helicopter gunships and artillery

Yeltsin orders crushing of Chechen rebels

forces and army and air force units nad reduced the Dagestan village of Pervomayskaya to blazing ruins last night as a day of artillery and aerial bombard-ment, and hand-to-hand fight-ing with besieged Chechen separatists drew to a bloody end.

and his generals apparently statement said. Russian left there now, that's clear. Of placed the need to assert their forces had formed a three-tier course the animals will be authority ahead of the safety ring of steel around the vii- dead, too."

20,549

of an estimated 100 hostages held captive by Chechens, led by the "Lone Wolf" Salman

Raduyev.

Mr Yeltsin said he had no choice but to act since the Chechens had begun to shoot and hang the captives — a claim denied by Mr Raduyev. "We want the terrorists pun-ished and wiped out," Mr Yeltsin said.

Last night, the Russian au-thorities claimed the battle was almost won. "Special interior ministry and state end.

The Russian attack was launched early yesterday after President Boris Yeltsin and his generals annarranted imperior ministry and state security service forces are subduing the fighters who are continuing to show resistance," an interior ministry and state security service forces are subduing the fighters who are continuing to show resistance," an interior ministry and state security service forces are subduing the fighters who are continuing to show resistance, and the security service forces are subduing the fighters who are continuing to show resistance.

lage to stop rebels leaving, it []

Itar-Tass news agency quoted an interior ministry official, Alexander Zdanovich, as saying: "Scattered groups of fighters who have hidden in houses are being weeded out and wiped out." Street fighting and bombing raged well after dark, as the Chechen rebels put up fierce resistance in the face of over-whelming odds. By nightfall, the Russians claimed to have

killed 60 rebels and captured many more. Four Russians were dead and 14 injured, offi-cials said. But only nine of the hostages were reported to have been freed, with nothing known about the condition of those remaining inside the

those remaining inside the village.

One villager, Murat Daitbegov, aged 45, stood on a knoll, staring at the smoke and flames. "The action is very sad, but there was no way out. The decision was taken not to let the fighters out. There won't be anything out. There won't be anything left there now, that's clear. Of



Another villager, Israel Khamzayev, said the conse-quences of the botched assault would be felt in Moscow. One Dagestani, asked whom he blamed for the devastation, said: "People who wear ties."

As evidence grew that Mr Yeltsin's effort to move decisively may have misfired, opposition politicians warned that he would pay for his miscalculation in the coming presidential election.

while, continued to voice defiance. He said in a radio broadcast heard in the Chechen capital, Grozny, that the Russian claim that hostages through the smoke. The gunships began flying that he would fight on. Before the onslaught, there

were reported to be between 70 and 120 hostages, including women and children. Che-chen strength was estimated at up to 250 fighters. The ferocious bombard-

ment, involving heavy artil-lery, helicopter-launched rockets and tank and cannon fire, began at 9am local time head of the Federal Security and continued till night fell. Within minutes of the Russians opening up on the vil-lage with 122-millimetre field guns, houses and haystacks

burned and the settlement billowed smoke.

Tracer bullets sailed into the sky and explosions rang out from points all around the ing his statement,

est shroud ever excavated in the world." It consists of

4,000 wafer-thin plaques of jade, a stone which in an-

cient times was believed to bestow immortality, sewn together with gold thread and decorated with gold

Shelagh Vainker, of the

Eastern art department at Oxford University's Ash-molean Museum, said simi-lar jade burial suits had

been found before and were

spectacular. The best known is that of Prince Liu

Sheng, also from the West-

ern Han period, which was excavated in 1968 and will

go on exhibition at the Brit-

ish Museum in September.

village as the rebels fought back with automatic rifles, machineguns, rocket propelled grenades and "Mukha" hand-held anti-tank weapons.

We watched as a tank was immobilised, its turret

Mas killed yesterday or today and we have no intention of killing them."

Taking Yeitsin's flak, page 6

The Chechen leader, mean- | knocked awry, then hit again. It began to burn fiercely. Helicopter gunships, known as "crocodiles", sprayed flares and wheeled and bobbed

> in huge circles across the plain. As they crossed over-head, they lined up on the town and unguided rockets hurtled from pods under their wings, exploding into houses. By early afternoon, every house on the south side of the

Service (FSB) and operation commander, claimed that be-fore the bombardment, the Chechens had begun shooting at their forces and had killed and hanged two of the 37 Siberian interior ministry sol-

There was no way of verifying his statement, and Mr Raduyev said in a radio message: "Not a single hostage was killed yesterday or today and we have no intention of killing them."

Austin

THEY SHOULD GET RAY

THE Treasury select commit-

tee has attacked the Chancel-lor, Kenneth Clarke's optimis-

tic Budget forecasts, and

End to chains for pregnant prisoners

drop its "inhumane and degrading" policy of shackling pregnant women inmates in the final hours before they give birth. The decision, taken in the face of protests from doctors and midwives, child welfare experts and MPs, will be forweek. It follows 50 minutes of talks yesterday between the Royal College of Midwives and the acting head of the Prison Service.

The change in policy cor after accounts given by the mothers-to-be, including "Annette", who wrote to the Guardian describing how she was chained to the hospital bed and guarded by two prison officers while she was in the early stages of labour.

miliation and misery experi-enced by the chained pregnant prisoners sparked disbelief amongst MPs and the public that such practices could still be employed in the

British prison system. Details of an agreement be tween the acting head of the Prison Service, Richard Tilt, and the Royal College of Mid wives president, Caroline Flint, are still to be finalised But the agreement is expected to include a "more humane definition of when a prisoner

chains should be removed. It is also believed that prison officers will be in-structed that they should maintain a guard outside the maternity ward once labour has started, and not remain behind a screen as is the pres-

Widdecombe, was forced to take the unusual step of making a personal statement to the House of Commons to apologise to MPs for incor-

rectly claiming that the hospital at the centre of the row the Whittington in London -had not voiced any concerns

about the practice. The minister said she had been wrongly advised by the

Prison Service.
The Whittington had first protested about the policy as early as August 31 last year and had followed it up with calls to ministers and the

about this correspondence. and which I in turn gave to the House in all good faith. was wrong, and I offer my unreserved apology to the House," said Miss Widde-

In the tradition of the Commons, MPs accepted the apology without immediate

But Labour MPs com plained that her "personal statement" should have been a ministerial announcement which would have allowed them to question her about the change in policy

In its turn the Prison Service made a full apology to Miss Widdecombe, saying it only had two hours to provid the information before the Commons emergency ques ion was debated last

Puesday. The shadow home tary, Jack Straw, last night said he had got the informa-

call to the hospital. One MP had particular reason to regard the apology ruefully. Alan Howarth, the former Conservative MP for Stratford upon Avon, had cited the refusal of ministers to reply to his letters last July ent practice.

"We are discussing how we can give a more humane effect to this policy," said Mr Tilt yesterday.

"Tilt yesterday. Tilt yesterday.

The change in policy came as the prisons minister, Ann mons for suggesting that women prisoners were being held in chains.

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Metcalfe. 'We will do
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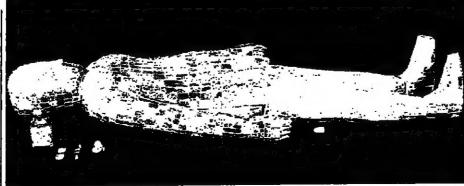
2,000 years on, Chinese bring to light the shroud of jade in which a king was buried

Edward Pilkington

CHINESE archaeologists Cyesterday claimed to have unearthed one of the world's most magnificent antiquities, a shroud made from thousands of pieces of jade in which a king was buried more than 2,000 years ago. The discovery was made

deep inside Lion Mountain. near Xuzhou in eastern Jiangsu province. Archaeo-logical workers had to clear 16 huge rocks, each weighing seven tonnes, which were intended to deter grave robbers.

Inside, at the end of a 70metre tunnel 117 metres underground, they found hundreds of relics in gold, silver, copper and iron, as well as 176,000 ancient coins. More than 200 official seals were also retrieved, which models the western Han dy-



The jade and gold thread shroud of Liu Sheng which will be exhibited at the British Museum in September — outshone only by the latest discovery

According to the Chinese 174BC.

researchers hope will divide invaluable information on the period.

nasty (206BC-AD24) which tearing at a galloping unified the country. The horse, a motif probably bright was interred around originating from Central Asia_

This is the second important excavation in eastern Jiangsu. About 500 metres from Liu Wu's tomb, two pits were uncovered 10 years ago containing 3,000 terracotta models of sol-

accused the Government of "wishful thinking" about a housing upturn. MPs attack optimism, page 3: Housing recovery 'mirage', page 11 Quick Crossword 15

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Sketch

Getaways that lack conviction



Mark Lawson

HE theme of the day at Westminster was lucky escapes. During Transport Questions, David Shaw (C. Dover) sought ministerial praise for an exercise conducted in his constituency on Saturday. In a safety drill, 845 passengers had been evacu-ated from a ferry ship within

Sir George Young, the Transport Minister, duly praised this hypothetical miraculous escape from a no-tional inferno. It took Paul point out that the simulation may not have been sufficiently rigorous. The pretend victims had all been young and able-bodied, and had fled in broad daylight a metaphorically de-scending vessel which was actually securely moored to the quay. Despite this unusually friendly war-game scenario, the ship had still only been cleared in around half of the Transport Select Committee's recommended evacuation time. In reality, half the pas-sengers would have ended up

paying that other ferryman.
A case, you might think, of there'll be red faces over the white cliffs of Dover. Perhaps the question of sinking ships had simply proved too touchy for a government so often com pared to one. But Sir George olew up an effortless life-vest an exercise under realistic conditions would have put the participants at risk of their lives, he explained. The amateur dramatic drowners, furthermore, were "perhaps over-cautious going down the shutes . . . if there was a real emergency, I think you would find that they exhibited less

that safety demonstrations were effectively useless because of considerations of safety — appropriately gave way to a real-life emergency situation of a political kind. Ann Widdecombe, the prisons minister, was required to dig herself out of a hole.

She had sought leave from the Speaker to make a personal statement to the Hou These mea culpas have tradi-tionally featured sexual exoticisms or decisions to depart the government. However, the word soon emerged that. though this personal state ment would involve women and chains, the minister had been politically rather than personally involved. In a probably unconscious

parody of government prison policy. Ms Widdecombe arrived with a heavy escort. As she waited on the front-bench for preceding business to fin-ish, Michael Howard, her boss at the Home Office, sat on her left, like a jailer. David Maclean, minister of state at the Home Office, was sitting on the steps of the Speaker's chair, with his legs stretched across the aisle, as if to prevent Ms Widdecombe doing a rumer, had she thought of it.

By tradition, a personal statement is heard in silence without follow-up questions. Ms Widdecombe said that she had told the House on January 9 that no complaint had been received from Whittington Hospital about the practice at Holloway to keep in handcuffs prisoners giving birth. She now understood that the hospital had objected and she apologised for giving wrong

The Speaker moved business on. Labour's Alan Wil-liams and Tam Dalyell tried to press the case that the subject had been more suited to a min isterial statement — allowing exploration by the opposition — than a personal one. They were rebuffed.

As safety demonstrations go, it was impeccable. A minis-ter had been helped to safety in three minutes flat. Observers still wondered, however, it the exercise had been carried out under appropriate condi-

First night

Letting his fingers do the talking

Andrew Clements | music - he never over-whelms you with torrents of

ISZT may be part of the grand romantic piano tra-dition, but apart from the B minor Sonata in the concert hall nowadays his music is usually the province of

specialists.
The French-Canadian. Marc-André Hamelin, has an impressively wide repertory, but his reputation is founded upon the school of keyboard virtuosity that has Liszt as its ntre of gravity. His recital to a packed Wigmore Hall was devoted entirely to Liszt, an elegantly planned collection that surveyed just about every facet of his output.

Hamelin does not conform to the stereotype of flamboyant Liszt pianists. There are none of the trappings of the transcendental virtuoso about his platform manner, when he sits down at the keyboard his contained bookishness might suggest that he is about to play Bach Two-Part

Inventions or late Webern rather than some of the most dashing and brilliant pieces for the instrument. Inad Hamelin is content to let his technique do the talking, and his phenomenal control and articulation, his ability to keep a cool head while all hell is breaking loose underneath his fingers, give his performances a crystalline clarity.

Other planists might gener ate more noise in some of this tone — but every chord and every detail that goes into cre-ating these massive complexes of sound is perfectly au-dible. Above all Hamelin's playing is informed by acute musicianship. The most striking numbers here were not the great war horses — three of the Hungarian Rhapsodies and the Reminiscences of Don Juan - but the quiet reflective pieces that began each half of his programme.

The velvety smoothness with which he unfurled the first of the Apperitions from 1834 and Un Sospiro, the third of the three Concert Studies of 14 years later, seemed effort-less, while three late miniatures — the relatively familiar Nuages Gris and the second of the La Lugubre Gondola pieces with an exquisite ephemeral rarity called En Rêve — showed that even when Liszt had stripped away the showmanship and begun to explore uncharted musical territory, Hamelin was still a poetic and trustworthy guide.

The showpieces brought the loudest applause. The group of Rhapsodies showed Hamelin is as capable of milking a keyboard trick as the most unashamed showman. Don Juan too was attacked head on, though by then tiredness had begun to produce a smattering of wrong notes; that they came as such a shock was a tribute to Hamelin's astounding

This review appeared in later editions yesterday.

Government inquiry reveals that suicide toll dwarfs the number of killings by psychiatric patients

Alarm over suicide rate

David Brindle, Social Services Corresponde

among mentally ill people is running at more than two a day, according to figures collected by a govern-ment inquiry which today idds to the growing clamour for action to improve care in

the community.

The toll dwarfs the number of killings by psychiatric patients, putting into stark perspective the public fear of random homicide by the men-

Of 39 killings investigated by the inquiry, almost two in three involved deaths of members of the same family. Only three involved the death of a

The inquiry concludes: "In spite of understandable concern about murders commit-ted by people in the care of psychiatric services, whether in hospital or in the commu-nity, it is important to main-tain some sense of proportion between the numbers in-volved and the total number

The "confidential inquiry into homicides and suicides by mentally ill people" was set up by the Department of Health in 1992. Its interim report on homicide, published in 1994, investigated 22 killings.

Investigated 22 killings.

Today's full report considers those 22 and 17 others from July 1992 to January 1994, and September 1994 to March 1995 — a total period of 24 months — although it does not pretend to be exhaustive.

By contrast, the report By contrast, the report investigates 240 suicides dur-ing the 18 months from June 1993 to December 1994, 1993 to December 1994, although the inquiry team has received preliminary details of up to 950 mentally ill people "thought to have killed themselves" during the 28 months between June 1993 and October 1995

and October 1995. The report says the team received such preliminary details of 714 cases in the first 10 months of last year alone However, these figures repre-sent only England, and cases continue to be reported, indi-cating the suicide rate among the mentally ill in Britain is

Although the report is pressing for improvements in care in the community, the team says: "It is striking that in many cases respondents felt the death could not measure which might have been adopted by the clinical

team or psychiatric service." The team, which is continu The team, which is continu-ing its work, looked at deaths of, or involving, patients receiving specialist psychiat-ric care or within a year of discharge from it.

Of the 240 suicides investigated, 53 were in-patients. 154 out-patients and 33 patients discharged within the previous year. Almost two in three unemployed, and almost one in 10 was black or Asian. Of the 39 homicides, two

were carried out by inpatients, 36 by patients "in touch" with community psy-chiatric units, and one by a patient discharged within the previous year.

Sixteen of the perpetrators suffered schizophrenia, 19 had been in-patients and 16 had been in-patients and 16 had received specialist social work support. Of the outpatients, fewer than half had been given a care plan in line with the "care programme" approach which was supposed to have been introduced in 1891.

The propert by an independent

The report, by an indepen-dent team under William Boyd, consultant psychiatrist at the Royal Edinburgh hospi-tal, does not pin the blame for care failings directly on shortage of resources. Of the 154 out-patient suicides, for example, only one was a per-son awaiting a bospital bed.

However, the team calls for greater concentration of mentally ill; improved communication among health and social task training and greater use of existing legal powers to supervise patients at risk. Accepting that there can be

no return to the policy of keeping people in hospital for life, the team says high quality care in the community will usually prove more costly. But it warns: "The degree of close observation previously available in a well-staffed psychiatric ward cannot be extended to the care of a patient living at home.

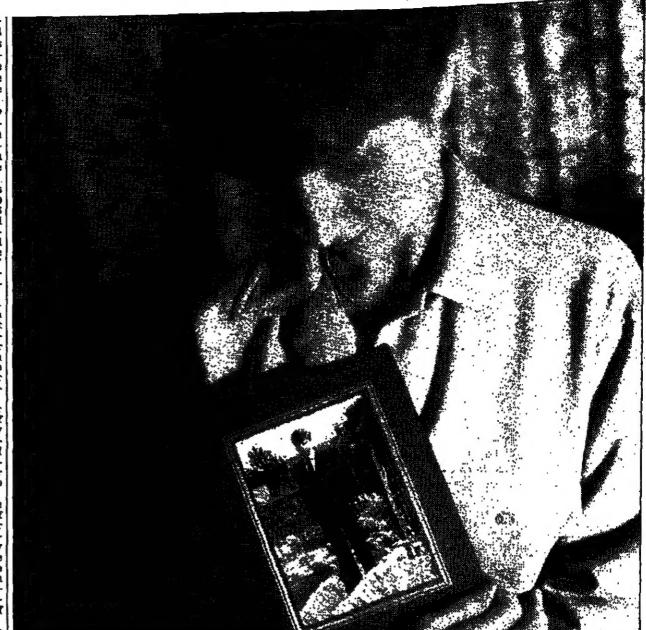
John Bowis, junior health minister responsible for men-tal health policy, said the in-quiry had shown there was no evidence of an increase in the number of homicides or sui-cides among the mentally ill. The report nevertheless

contained much of value, he added. "It shows, for example, that a significant factor is refusal by patient to comply with treatment. Alan Milburn, a shadow

Alan Millourn, a shadow health minister, demanded an emergency plan to "rescue mental health" and avoid further tragedies. He called for a halt to psychiatric bed closures, immediate implementation of the care programme approach, action on staff shortages, and changes to the mental health funding formula to help areas most in

meed.

• Report of the Confidential Inquiry into Homicides and Suicides by Mentally-ill People: PO Box 1515; London



Patricia Green holding a picture of her son Adrian, who jumped off a block of flats at the age of 23 PHOTOGRAPH: TOM JE

'He just looked so lonely in the hospital . . . It was a case of giving him the drugs and leaving him to struggle on his own'

WO years on, Patricia Green still sobs when-ever she tells the story of her son, Adrian, who cide attempt. jumped to his death from a block of flats aged 23.

"He didn't get the help he needed. It could happen to anybody." She feels that with more understanding, care and attention, Adrian would still be alive.

He was a "lovely boy" who won an apprenticeship with Mercedes Benz, but lost the job. In April 1990, aged 19, he took 40 parace-

He began getting delu-sions. In October 1990, a consultant psychiatrist told Patricia and Ronald Green nia. "He told us one in three recovered, but never really explained anything." By

February 1991, Adrian was Greens' complaint against threatening to shoot his mother, then he attacked his father. "He was halluci-left did enough to be in hosnating. All I did was panic and call the police. The poor lad was held in remand [for three months]." Eventually, he was

moved to an open ward at the West Middlesex hospital. Under medication. Adrian went to a special hostel in November, but by February 1992 he was back in hospital. He went home for a while, then back to the hostel but was thrown out for smoking mari-huans. At the hospital, a social worker found him recorded an open verdict. out for smoking maribed and breakfast accom-modation. It so upset him he threatened to kill him-

Adrian was not considered ill enough to be in hos-pital, but when he was given a council flat near his parents in Isleworth, west London, he stopped taking his medicine and his men-tal state deteriorated.

He was taken back into bospital in December 1993. On a visit in January, Mrs Green said, "he looked so lonely. It was a case of giving him the drugs and leaving him to struggle". On January 12, 1994

ner

phe after another. There wasn't anybody to care for

Asian clan's 'modest' wedding draws 10,000

Suzanne Goldenberg in Bombay

FIG celebrations were not overtly extravagant — if you leave aside a guest list of 10,000. But last night's wedding in Bombay of three scions of Britain's wealthiest Asian family, the Rindujas, became a show of homage to the clan's power and influence in their city of origin.

Announcers heralded the



exhibit the combined force of and foreign.

arrival of politicians, and congratulatory messages poured in from around India. There was one from the mayor of Hounslow, too.

For a family known for its reticence, the weddings of Ajay. Ramkrishan and Dheeraj were an occasion to exhibit the combined force of and foreign.

For the benefit of guests,

who entered through a grotto meant to represent the Himalayan homes of the Indian gods and then disappeared into the lush, vast lawns of the Royal Western Indian Turf Club, the announcers explained the elaborate Vedic rituals being conducted under the three matching mandaps, or wedding canopies.

The hour-long ceremonies were shown simultaneously on a giant screen, several cameras cutting between the

tunes are closely intertwined, but its members are scattered gin. The head of the family, Srichand Hinduja, aged 60, and his brother Gopichand, aged 55, are based in London, where net assets are estimated at £900 million. They trade oil in the United

States and the Middle East, manufacture lorries and buses in India own banks in Switzerland and Bombay and will soon, they hope, open a bank in Britain. They are in power stations, telecommunications and the media, too. But last night's triple wedding of the next generation was partly to make an émigré point about Bombay: "This has been our parental home from 1914," said Srichand, who works from the head office of the family's British company. Sangam I to in the

company, Sangam Ltd. in the Haymarket.
"We have been coming in and out. It doesn't mean we haven't been in India." The three bridegrooms are

Prakash, and Dheeraj, the son of the London-based Gopi-chand, have already taken their places in the empire. But the ceremonials did not

third, Geneva-based, brother

mean neglecting the everyday affairs that made the dynasty what it is. Yesterday was a working day at Hinduja House, a relatively modest five-storey building that is the Hinduja Group's Bombay headquarters. Executives scurried in and

Executives scurried in and out before taking their places on the receiving line, while Srichand was tying the knot in a deal with Lufthansa for an international cargo airline minutes before festivities started "So you can say it's the fourth wedding of the day," a Hinduja spokesman said. Despite the official devotion

to tradition - the Vedic ritual, vegetarian wedding ritual, vegetarian wedding supper and absence of alcohol—change has a way of intruding. In 1992, Srichand lost his only son. Dharam, in tragic circumstances. Dharam, aged 22, burned himself alive in a suicide pact with his Anglo-Indian bride in Mauritius, months after they married in defiance of their families.

Only one of last picht's man

Only one of last night's marthe first sons of their generation to get married. Ajay and Ramkrishan, the sons of the chose their own brides. riages was arranged: Ajay's. Ramkrishan and Dheeraj



hich Mediterranean holiday serves a cultural cocktail?

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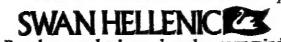
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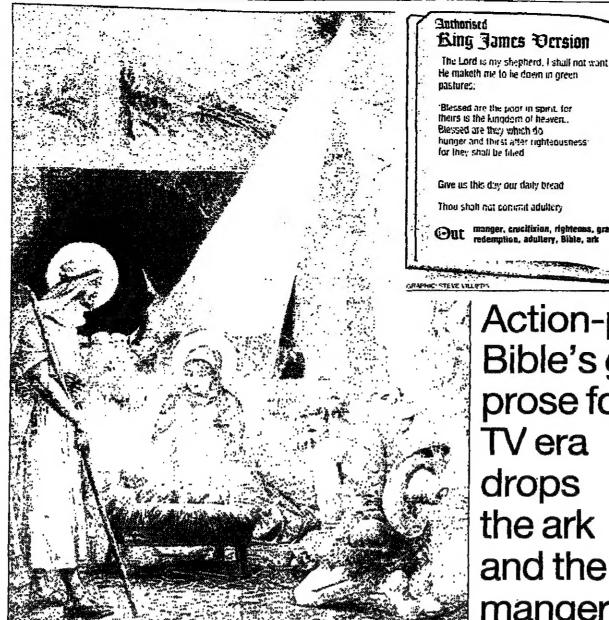


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Broaden your horizons, broaden your mind.



Madeleine Bunting Religious Affairs Editor

ESUS'S manger, Noah's ark, and God's grace Biblical references consigned to history in a controversial new edition of the Scriptures.

Some of the most familiar and much loved passages and phrases of the Bible or "God's promise for the people of today" as it is renamed - are barely rec-

ilshed by the Bible Society. More than a hundred American biblical scholars spent 10 years reworking the beatitudes from the Sernon on the Mount, the Ten Commandments, the Lord is my shepherd, and the Lord's Prayer into what they say is more accessible language. Critics say the result is banal and threat-

English Version (CEV) is the first English Bible to translating the Old Testa-

meaning.

ens its theological

Authorised King James Version preferred "flesh" and "issue of flesh", and the Revised Version referred to "private parts". The CEV claims to be the

Bible for a generation raised on television. The gospel of St Mark is de scribed as "action-packed" "sneaky", and boat is sub-stituted for the ark. Crucifixion is replaced with What is likely to most infuriate many believers is

prose for TV era drops

the ark and the manger

Christian theology, such as righteouspess, grace, redemption and repentance, have been removed. God of righteousness be-comes God "is really kind" yesterday dismissed by the Ven George Austin, the Archdeacon of York, as the oppy" language of Enid

man, the American Baptist minister who led the team understood as a feminine attribute and used to refer that many words central to drey Hepburn, so it was

English Version You. Lord are my shepherd, I will

never be in need You let me rest in helds of green grass."

God blesses those people who cepend only on him. They belong to the kingdom of heaven... blesses those people who want to obey him more than to eat or drink. They will be given what they want.

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Barclay Newman . . . Bible

Dr Newman, says the CEV is accessible to a new eneration with no experi-

"theological jargon".
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But Archdeacon Austin said there was a real danger of losing phrases which

were part of our heritage.
"We mustn't lose that
which is so familiar that anything else sounds bizarre. What's wrong with The Lord is my shepherd

Reform, the evangelical grouping in the Church of England's General Synod. ernising the English, it should not be denuded of Dr Newman admits that

Rev Phillip Hacking of

sense; "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want". What don't you want? The Lord?" replacing "manger" in the prompted misgivings:

"Many contemporary readers didn't know what a manger was. We decided to planning to sell or give in high positions said you couldn't have Christ in a 10 million copies over the feedbox or 'Away in a Feed lished in the US last box'; we compromised on a bed of hay'." and has sold several million copies. He was also nervous ap-proaching the 23rd Psalm.

There are more than 40 translations of the Bible in inclusive New Testament, a Mills and Boon style "Book of God" and "Bible Chronicles" in colloquial black street language were pub-



have been happier leaving it alone but it doesn't make

The CEV is due to be pub-

MPs attack Clarke's

Miners win High Court battle

Judge's ruling on 'dead hand' likely to lead to 100,000 claims

Martin Wainwright and Seumas Milne

RITISH Coal faces an avalanche of indus-trial disease compensation bills, which could run into hundreds of millions of pounds, after a landmark ruling in the High Court yesterday. The Government, owner of

what is now a shell company, will pick up the bill. A judge's decision that Brit-ish Coal failed to monitor Vibration White Finger — a condition caused by long-term use of vibrating machinery is likely to lead to more than 100,000 claims by miners.

Fall-out from the decision could also affect manufacturing, farming and the forestry business where drills, pneu-matic picks and similar get in touch with their local equipment are regularly used. NUM office," Mr Scargill of sensation, and acute pain during intermittent attacks.



The former miners wait for the High Court judgment over Vibration White Finger

former miners from the North-east. "We are advising

blood supply to the hands, leading to nerve damage, loss

The ruling was hailed as a | said. He claimed up to £500 | retary in Northumberland, "tremendous victory" by million of damages could be Arthur Scargill, president of involved.

Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, which largely also known as "dead hand", use their fingers or handle funded the test action by nine involves a gradual draining of small objects. They can't pick "Sufferers end up unable to use their fingers or handle small objects. They can't pick up keys or do up their buttons or zips. The worst cases never

e, liest reco by an Italian company in 1911 — ended when Judge John Stephenson found that Brit-ish Coal had failed to keep in-formed about the condition or take proper steps to prevent

He told the High Court sitting in Newcastle that British Coal — in charge of the coal industry until privatisation a year ago — had carried out only an "inadequate and criticised survey, and ought to have realised by the mid-1970s that tools used in the mining industry carried a foreseeable risk." Papers revealed in the case showed the National Coal Board (BC's predecessor) knew about the dangers of using vibrating tools in the early 1950s.

The corporation, which is now a shell company selling its portfolio of land and buildings, is expected to appeal against the decision, delaying any compensation payouts.
A spokesman said the legal battle had been justified, because the judge had rejected the miners' claim that action work again."

Should have been taken by The three-month test case the most thorough study of liest date should be 1975.

work again."
The three-month test case

Richard Thomas

omy is set to slow down sharply this year. The report predicts a weak

Bank of England, Eddie George, to task for his contining economy.

stalling German economy and ahead of this weekend's meeting of finance ministers from the leading seven industrial countries, who will discuss

ment's economic skills at a time when party managers are attempting to talk up their economic prowess. One Nation Toryism is as strong in the Tory Party today as it has ever been and

a projected 9 per cent inlook more and more
crease in business justified."

City dealers welcomed the
The report also said the committee's scepticism over page 11

Budget optimism chances of public finances | the Treasury's forecasts moving out of the red by the | which most economists ha

HE all-party Treasury select committee yes-terday launched a broadside against the Chancellor's optimistic Budget forecasts, saying the econ-

recovery in housing and poor investment and export prospects. It argues that the 3 per cent growth forecast is unat-tainable without aggressive cuts in interest rates. it takes the governor of the

ued anti-inflationary stance, amid indications of a founder The report comes hard on the heels of evidence of a is the biggest

ways of heading off a world the economy. But William recession. Waldegrave, Chief Secretary The committee, headed by a Conservative MP, Sir Thomas Arnold, delighted Labour with its blunt attack on the credibility of the Govern-

The MPs said they were unconvinced by the forecast of an 8 per cent rise in exports this year and sceptical about a projected 9 per cent in look more and more

end of the decade had worsened, after the Government raised its forecast deficit for 1995/6 by about £7 billion to

£29 billion after tax revenues came in lower than forecast. "The slippage in the fore-cast for public borrowing is perhaps the biggest disappointment in the Budget," the

report says.
The shadow chief secretary Andrew Smith, seized on the report as a "damning indict-ment" of the Chancellor, Ken-

The slippage in the public borrowing forecast disappointment'

neth Clarke's management of to the Treasury, said the Government's rosy outlook was justified.

Speaking at the beginning of the House of Commons debate on the finance bill — which puts the Budget measures on the statutue book -he said: "A number of surveys now show that the Chan-

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which most economists have criticised, but there was surprise at the venom in the committee's attack on Mr George. The MPs' report says the governor, who called for rates to be raised last year despite growing evidence of economic slowdown, had been system-atically over-pessimistic

about the risks of inflation. It adds: "For one partici-pant to maintain that his view is correct when it be-comes apparent that he has misjudged the significance to be attached to certain indicators, will not enhance his credibility or that of the insti-tution which he represents."

Mr George meets Mr Clarke today to discuss monetary policy. Although there were further signs from manufac-turing yesterday that price pressures are easing, most commentators are expecting base rates to be left on hold at 6.5 per cent after a 0.25 per-centage point cut last month. But the money markets are expecting the cost of borrow-

ing to be trimmed before the spring, especially if unem-ployment figures tommorrow show the pace of economic growth continuing to slacken. The construction industry yesterday called on Mr Clarke to loosen monetary policy to get the housing market off the ground. The Treasury Com-mittee said he was guilty of wishful thinking on the pros-

pects for a rebound in prop

ROAD ATLAS

Tory left launches attack in Commons on Lady Thatcher's onslaught Conservatism. The spirit of

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

....

. . . .

12.4 +13.

PAVID Hunt, the pro-Buro-pean former cabinet min-ister, yesterday led the Tory ister, yesterday led the Tory left in a co-ordinated Common's counter-attack against Lady Thatcher's onslaught on One Nation Conservatism.

Mr Hunt, president of the left of the opening stages of the fi
Tam Yeo, the former environment bluest, by the left of reading a lengthy extract reading a lengthy extract sidetrack, to move away from lone Nation policies but we have wen successful that nouncing Two Nation Britain, before he insisted that the opening stages of the fi
Their intervention, during the bluest, by around the right hay tige us to yet and the right hay tight and the right hay the reading a lengthy extract siderack, to move away from One Nation policies but we have we ha

Tory Reform Group, insisted | nance debate, suggests that | ment to the social fabric. that One Nation Toryism was | John Major's business man | Referring to I "completely fundamental" to the party's beliefs, and was enthusiastically backed by Tim Yeo, the former environ-

agers have yet to dampen the Tory civil war. Mr Hunt opened his speech, defending the Budget, by

Referring to Lady Thatcher's anti-One Nation speech, he said: "Voices from the extreme left and indeed from the right may urge us to

the centre ground is our terri-tory. It is the territory where we have won successive gen-eral elections under Lady Thatcher and under the

Prime Minister and we must crease in business never surrender our election investment.

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Sir Ron Dearing calls for action in schools to combat breakdown of civilised values

Government education adviser seeks moral crusade in schools



for schools is to be set up amid concern that children are not being taught basic

Sir Ron Dearing, the Government's chief curriculum adviser, yesterday backed the crusade, calling for a "sense of rage" against esca-lating violence and the break-down of civilised values.

The forum — drawn from churches, other faiths, business and education — will be run by his Schools Curricu-lum and Assessment Author-ity, and will advise ministers on what schools should be doing to nurture moral values.

organised by the authority. Sir Ron said civilisation was taken for granted but the in-visible bonds that reinforced respect for each other in a stable society were being dissolved. Women were afraid to walk alone and parents were worried their children would sense of shared rage about what is happening," he said, adding that schools in partnership with parents could renew civilisation.

The conference was told by Nick Tate, the authority's chief executive, that schools were so anxious not to impose their views or offend parents school in every Scottish par-ish to spread the Gospel, to that they presented all moral questions as relative with no clear right and wrong Oliver Cromwell and the Pu-

Teachers were yesterday choices.

Choices.

Choices.

Titans, to Thomas Arnold, the Victorian headmaster who led als, arguing schools were views of others and explate the 19th-century public school.

umder intense pressure to de-liver the national curriculum. have overreacted." He pro-Speaking at a conference posed a national forum repre-"gentlemanly conduct". and moral principle" and

Under the current national senting the churches and curriculum all children other faiths, business and receive personal and social education (PSE), which is education, to draw up a plan to help schools carry out this moral mission. "It could promeant to cover a wide range of topics from sex education duce a statement of values, a and personal relationships to code of morals - the sort of thing we think schools should

PSE has a low priority in most schools and many pupils regard it as a waste of time. Dr Tate said previous societies had. "mission state-Schools are also required to ments" which spelled out teach religious education, covering six main religions, although more time will be devoted to Christianity. clear views about what was right and what children should be taught.
Dr Tate and Sir Ron join a

Other topics, such as educa tion for citizenship, are sup-posed to be treated as "crosswith as part of several sub-jects. In practice schools remain confused about how to

Few ready to teach 'right from wrong'

Donald MacLeod

OUNG teachers have a horror of imposing the sort of moral values the Government's curriculum advisers want to see in the classroom, a national education conference heard yesterday. A survey of student teachers found they were suspicious of promoting citizenship or concepts like the

common good", unlike their counterparts in Europe who

felt a duty to promote student teachers regarded citizenship". One commented: moral and spiritual teaching "I think as soon as you try to thrust things on people they

bridge university's depart ment of education, said trainee secondary teachers when asked to define a "good citizen" offered replies rang-ing from "a middle-aged bald-ing fellow with a nice garden and a semi-detached house to someone who wore a

They did not want to im-

pose "ethnocentric" values or tackle issues that might conflict with parents' views.
"I do not want to get involved in causing trouble,"

Less than 10 per cent of stu-dent teachers said they would feel confident teaching about family life, working life or public life and were confused

rebel and I think it would be seen as a Mickey Mouse subject, to be hones

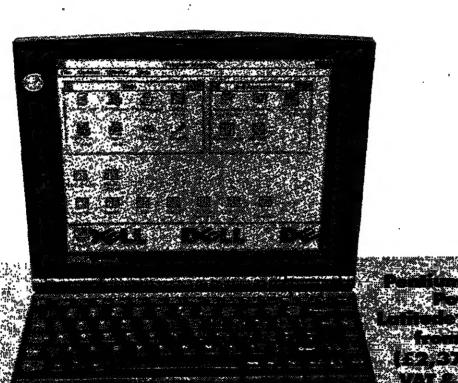
be doing on behalf of society."

long line of reformers who

Teenagers who are practis-ing churchgoers feel their life has more purpose and are less likely to consider suicide than non-believers, according to a survey reported to yester-day's conference by Leslie Francis, of Trinity College, Carmarthen.

year-olds questioned, practis-ing believers had more positive attitudes to school and were less likely to approve of truancy or graffiti. They were more likely than non-believ-ers or believers who did not attend church to disapprove of sex outside marriage, but were equally tolerant of homosexuality.

"Religious belief and church membership exert a strong influence on promot-





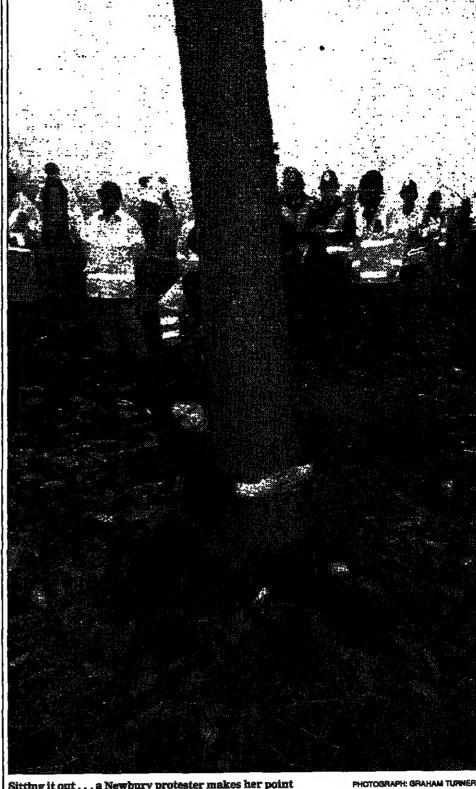


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Sitting it out . . . a Newbury protester makes her point

Chain reaction puts bypass gains in reverse

1 Enborno Road. 2 Great Pen Wood. Trees cut. One arrest 3 Tot Hill. Trees cut. Many arrests.

Owen Bowcott on protest success

DECLINING in cold mud under a contrac-tor's van. Rory Larkin peered out from behind a rear tyre. He was relishing his discomfort.

He had padlocked himself

to the exhaust and had prevented the load of chainsaws being used elsewhere on the Newbury bypass.

"If they start the engine," I'll get third degree burns," the 28-year-old former warehouseman boasted.

After two hours, cramped and shivering, he crawled out to a round of applause from anti-road protesters. Such tactics succeeded in

chainsaws at Tot Hill, and Great Pen Wood, south of Newbury, before enough demonstrators gathered to disrupt the cutting. At En-borne Road to the west of the town, activists scrambled up willows and ashes to save a copse.

As on Friday, the use of mobile chainsaw crews led to a large number of arrests with 20 protesters taken to Newbury police station yes-terday. Most of them were beld under the Criminal Justice Act, although one delaying work again on the route after construction one demonstrator, who teams briefly gained the gave his name as "Bark" they won't turn out."

initiative by commencing from Belgium, claimed his operations at several sites.

Trees were felled with "I climbed up a fir tree and the man below put a chainsaw into the trunk."

At one point security men linked arms forming an empty square while they es-corted two men carrying chainsaws across a field full of jeering protesters.

There was also evidence of growing local unease at the construction work. Lady Jeanine Barber and several of her friends who live near the site again ex-pressed their solidarity. agitated. "A lot of local people are very sympa-



The Advisory Group on the Ethics of Xenotransplantation

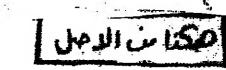
Request for Submissions

The Secretary of State for Health has appointed Professor Ian Kennedy to chair an Advisory Group on the Ethics of Xenotransplantation to report to him by summer 1996. Their terms of reference are:

In the light of recent and potential developments in xenotransplantation, to review the acceptability of and ethical framework within which xenotransplantation may be undertaken and to make recommendations.

The Advisory Group invites written views and evidence from individuals and organisations. Further information about submitting written evidence is available from the Secretary. Submissions should be sent as soon as possible, and no later than 29 March 1996, to:

The Secretary Advisory Group on the Ethics of Xenotransplantation Room 508 Eileen House 80-94 Newington Causeway London SE1 6EF



Turkley January 16 1996

Commissioner goes

THOROLD MASEFIELD, the British High Commissioner to Nigeria, who was withdrawn after the execution of minority rights campaigner Ken Saro-Wiwa and other Ogonis, returned Nigeria's membership of the Commonwealth was suspended after the executions in November and EU countries withdrew

EU governments have decided to return their diplomats before a visit by a sub-committee from the Commonwealth ministerial group, which has been set up to tackle democratic and human rights violations. International measures have

failed to persuade the Nigerian regime to restore democracy and recognise human rights. "Part of the Commonwealth's message is the need for direct dialogue to get these points across and, in support of that, it seems right to us to have our top man there," said a Foreign Office official.

SCULPTOR Henry Moore's daughter Mary yesterday renewed

her High Court battle to gain control of millions of pounds worth of her father's work. She and her mother helped the sculptor set

up the charitable Henry Moore Foundation in 1976. A year later, and until his death aged 88 in 1986, Henry Moore became an

employee of the foundation because of tax worries.

Lord Irvine QC, representing Ms Moore, aged 48, told the Court of Appeal that Ms Moore claims that all her father's artist's copies

of his works-were his personal property.

Lord Irvine said that under an unwritten "artist's copy conven-

tion", sculptors were allowed to produce up to two versions of a limited edition which then became their own property. The Henry Moore Foundation was claiming that because Moore

was an employee of HMF Enterprises he had given up his rights to artist's copies.

THE Mitchell Commission on illegal weapons will not meet its deadline of this Thursday to deliver its report to the British and

After talks with Ulster Unionist MPs in Belfast yesterday George Mitchell, President Clinton's special Irish envoy, said there could be a delay of 24 hours or so. "There is no set back

involved," he said. "We simply have got such a large number of people we have to meet that it's physically impossible to do

Mitchell to miss deadline

Legal battle over Moore

back to Nigeria

senior diplomatic representatives.

News in brief

Alan Travis reports on changes to 'appalling practice' and promise to review HIV case

Manacles policy loosened

Prisons modify maternity rule

its policy of chainpregnant women prisoners means they will not be mana-cled once they have entered a hospital maternity unit.

A decision in principle to modify the policy emerged after a 50-minute meeting yesterday between the acting head of the Prison Service and the Royal College of Mid-wives which has campaigned since July against the "appalling practice". Richard Tilt, the Prison

Service's acting director-general, said afterwards they hoped to agree a formal statement within the next two days establishing a new policy. "We are discussing how we can give a more humane effect to this policy."

It is understood that a wider interpretation will be adopted of the policy first introduced last April after the IRA escapes at Whitemoor and Parkhurst

The policy will in future be taken to mean that pregnant prisoners may be chained and handcuffed while moving from prison to hospital but not once they have entered the maternity unit. It is also believed that prison officers will be required to keep guard outside the labour ward and not sit in the room behind a

The Royal College of Midwives privately described yesterday's meeting as a break-

HE Prison Service | needed a clearer definition of ecision to change | the point that labour started. Labour is a longer process than was perceived by the Home Office. Labour starts from the onset of regular painful uterine contractions." As the case of "Annette", highlighted in the Guardian nant prisoners were being shackled when they left the maternity ward of the Whit-tington hospital in London to

> The British Medical Associa-tion added its weight to those calling for the Home Office to end the "routine application of maximum restraint in every case". It believed that "security and clinical needs must be the subject of negotiation and every case must be assessed on its merits"

> go to the toilet after labour had started.

The guidelines were issued last April when an instruction was issued to the governors of women prisons saying that all inmates who needed to be escorted to medical or welfare appointments should be restrained.

The governor had to ensure a "risk assessment" was undertaken. Those deemed not to be an escape risk were allowed to visit hospital unescorted on a temporary release licence. But all other prisoners were required to be cuffed or chained regardless of the

escape risk they represented. The Home Office says that 20 women prisoners have escaped during hospital visits since 1990, including a preg-nant inmate who jumped



The HIV positive remand prisoner who is shackled 24 hours a day to a prison officer at St Mary's hospital, west London

CHARD Tilt, the acting known only as Jane, who is and would not be an escape risk. "She's fairly seriously prison Service, yesterday allegedly smuggling ill but being held in unsaid he would personally review the case of the HIVpositive woman prisoner who is shackled 24 hours a day to a prison officer.

An Old Bailey judge yes-terday refused a bail appli-cation on behalf of the in-

allegedly smuggling

She is chained by her wrist while she is in a specialist ward of St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, in west London.

Her solicitor, Sarah Cleary, says she is far too ill to walk more than a prison, north London, couple of hundred yards

thinkable conditions. She's got tubes coming out of her. She is wearing one handcuff, attached by a very long chain to a prison officer, who wears the other cuff. It's like something out

isted to unchain inmates if the prison authorities were satisfied that medical conditions were such that there was no risk of escape and security considerations were not paramount. It is believed Jane is

charged with importing four grammes of heroin with an estimated street that discretion already ex- on remand since November

THE comic Ken Dodd has

Skull role caps comic career

been invited by Kenneth Bran-agh to take the role of Yorick the jester in his film version of Hamlet Extra lines were added for

David Sharrock

Dodd, aged 68 (right). In Shakespeare's version Yorick appears only as a skull. Flashbacks to Hamlet's youth will show Yorick clowning. Branagh, playing Hamlet,

will say "Alas, poor Yorick" to Dodd's skull, according to yesterday's Sun. The film, on which shooting starts this month, also stars Robin Williams, Gerard Depardieu, Charlton Heston, Jack Lem-mon and Julie Christie.

Dodd said: "I'm looking for ward to it with a great deal of plumptiousness. It is only a cameo role, but I am very ex-cited. There will be all those



Chain of correspondence Scots jail plan attacked

July 19: Alan Howarth, then | October 19: Michael Howard | ministers. It does not take Tory MP for Stratford-on- talls MPs they should "ques- place.

Avon, writes to Michael How- tion" Alan Howarth's judgard saying "the policy of securing women prisoners in handcuffs or chains is degrading and shameful". He receives no reply from ministerest as a key reason for his defection to Labour.

August 31: Whittington Hospital chief executive, Ian Kidson, writes to Holloway governor enclosing letter from his director of midwifery. Marie Grant, expressing con-cern of maternity unit staff over new Home Office policy that all immates are handcuffed or chained to warders.

ment for claiming that women prisoners are being kept in chains. He insists they are being handcuffed only between prison and hospital.

December 4: Baroness Hay-man, chairwoman of Whittington Hospital Trust, writes to health ministers asking for a meeting to discuss "profe sional concerns over the effects of tightening of custody policies towards pregnant

women prisoners."

Two follow-up phone calls are made to ministers to try to arrange the meeting, which was to include Home Office

to Holloway asking the jail to end "the practice of sending male prison officers to accompany women coming into the Ann Widdecombe tells the Commons: "No concerns have een registered by the hospital about Holloway practice.

January 11: Baroness Hayman writes to Miss Widdecombe making clear the hospital's concern and adding: " would be grateful if you could correct the impression given by your remarks to the House

ROPOSALS to keep of-fenders in jail longer

Erlend Clouston

and increase supervi-of short-term inmates tish Secretary, at an historic sitting of the Scottish Grand Committee in Edinburgh

Under plans which appear to anticipate government pol-icy for the rest of Britain prisoners in Scotland would serve their full sentence less a possible sixth, which they would have to earn. Mr Forsyth made his an-

Mr Forsyth made his an well as long-term prisoners, nouncement during a law and will now go for consultation

order debate in the committee | prior to a white paper by the which, for the first time, took | summer. Michael Howard, ministerial questions north of | the Home Secretary, told last the border. He told the gather ing of around 30 MPs that "people are bewildered by prisoners setting out at half time for full-time offences".

less than four years are released after half their sentence. Long-term prisoners are eligible for parole halfway through their sentences, and are automatically released on licence after two-thirds.

The proposals, which also indicate Government support for extension of post-custody supervision to short-term as

year's Tory conference he proposed to abolish automatic early release for prisoners. However, John McFall

Labour's Scottish home at Government of copying "crude American proposals of varehousing prisoners". He said 80 per cent of Scotland's prison population were re-of fenders and 40 per cent were fine defaulters — a "disgrace

ful" statistic, he alleged. Mr Forsyth also said ran-dom drugs testing of inmates would begin at Cornton Vale prison outside Stirling, and at Edinburgh, next month.

Protection for Statesman

HE New Statesman magazine was granted a High Court admin istration order vesterday to protect it from creditors' claims while it seeks a buyer. Mr Justice Harman was told that the Statesman & Nation Publishing Company was "hopelessly insolvent". Its intention was to market the magazine title, its only marketable

asset. Several potential buyers had expressed interest.

The administration order, which stops short of receivership, will keep the company alive while administrating accountants seek to sell it to the most favourable bidder. Management ha stressed that the magazine, founded in 1913, will continue to publish, and the principal shareholder, Philip Jeffrey, said the administration order would give the title the chance of a fresh start under a new owner.

President challenges union

THE president of Britain's sixth largest union is planning legal action to block her union's elections. Audrey Wise, Labour MP for Preston and president of the shop workers' union, Usdaw, since 1991, is acting with Maurean Madden, a North-east member of the

umion executive.

The dispute, which has split the union's leadership, will come to a head at a meeting of its executive council in Manchester today. Garfield Davies, the union's general secretary since 1986. announced that he planned to retire in June 1997. The union brought forward the election of his successor, the union president dency and the executive council in a combined poll which would save the union more than £150,000.

Mr Davies said his two colleagues represented "a small and totally unrepresentative faction which put leftwing dogma before the interests of the predominantly moderate membership and seem to have little regard for the union's financial wellbeing". Mrs Wise's case will claim the union was breaking its own rules by seeking, without adequate warnings, early presidential and executive council elections, and by imposing a threshold of 25 branch nominations for the post of general secretary. — Martyn

Strangled woman named

POLICE last night named a woman found strangled and dumped on a moor as Angela Joyce Heys, aged 33, of Bolton. They said she had been the victim of a violent sex attack before she was murdered and her body thrown over a stone wall into scrubland

American is first non-Irish poet to win T S Eliot prize

Michael Ellison Arts Corresponde

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N HIV positive American N HIV-positive American writer last night became the first winner of the £5,000 T. S Eliot poetry prize from outside Northern Ireland. Mark Doty, right, beat a shortlist of 10 for the prize, one of the most important in the country, with My Alexandria, his first collection pub-

lished in the UK. Of the pre-

vious winners, Ciaran Carson comes from Portadown and

Paul Muldoon from Belfast.
The poems in My Alexandria were written between his lover Wally's diagnosis as HIV-positive and the onset of Aids, a period which Doty calls "a terrible leisure of

contemplation".
Liz Lochead, one of the judges, said the collection "burst upon Britain with the force that such rage, beauty and sorrow must summon. How can poems be so searing and so scintillating at the



diagnosed as HIV-positive in 1989 and these poems are written in the strange anxious period between then and the onset of Aids. It's not the shadow we remember from this poetry, but froths of flow-

ers, rainstreaks, rusts."

Doty came ahead of Simon Armitage, Ian Duhig, Michael Langley, Glyn Maxwell and Bernard O'Donoghue, to take the price presented by Eliot's the prize presented by Eliot's widow, Valerie.

Open air art fills a barren site with scaffolding

Michael Ellison Arts Correspon

RBAN Infill, Britain's Ulargest piece of open air art for two years, achieved ments of completion yesterday. Richard McDowell's

work, constructed of sheeting and 3,000ft of scaffold tubing occupied what had north London's most fash-

Standing a proud 36ft tall the piece, which cost £4,000 could be seen from some distance, and the gap between its two parts formed a natural entrance leading a natural entrance leading people from a pedestrian rossing in Upper Street, Islington, to the Business Deign Centre.

Urban Infill, which took two electricians and five is expected to have 30,000 fact that the scaffolding is a on the unused land.



Richard McDowell and his Urban Infill in Islington, north London энстовлен: payid silling

build, will have disap-

peared by next week.

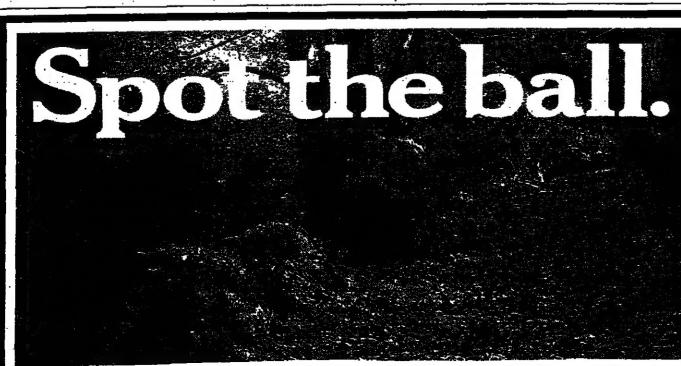
It was commissioned to draw attention to Art '96, the country's largest contemporary arts fair, which

caffolders seven days to visitors between when it temporary language, I like oulld, will have disap- opens tomorrow and when things that are in a state of it closes on Sunday. McDowell, aged 27, an ar-

art, said: "I quite like the

flux."
He won a competition

chitecture graduate study-ing at Wimbledon school of three London colleges for



You're not missing anything, it's in the bottom right hand corner of the photograph.

outside and play football with a live hedgehog, disembowel a fox or beat a rabbit.

In fact it is rarely a crime to carry out even the most appalling wild mammal,

But why? There are laws that expressing your opinion. currently protect the safety of domestic animals. What's needed turn this football back is a simple law that bans cruelty into a hedgehog.

to all wild mammals as well.

On January 26th Alan Meale MP will put before Parliament a As the law stands you could go new Wild Mammals Protection Bill which will do just that.

It will make it illegal to cruelly kick, beat, impale, burn, crush or drown a wild mammal.

A letter from you to your MP torture as long as your victim is a could help persuade them to support the bill. Please write today

With luck you'll be helping to

Vienna's lonely hearts and lingering deaths over US



needed company, so she took to playing the lonely hearts columns of the Austrian press.

"Widow, 64, 1 metre 65cm, would like to share the quiet autumn of her life with a widower. I am a housewife, gardener, nurse, and a faithful companion." Suitors were not

slow to take the bait. The tabloids bave dubbed Elfriede Blauensteiner the black widow and the poison witch. Yesterday the police said she had confessed to the murder of four men and a woman. They suspect that her cupboard and that she will feature prominently in the annals of serial murder in central Europe

Scores of middle-aged men and pensioners answered her advertise-

HE Viennese widow | ments, they say. She | screened them for their assets, not physical or emotional, but material. Those best able to satisfy her gambling habit were selected for a slow death, the au-

coat as recently as New Year's Eve.

She was taken into custo-

dy on Thursday after the nephew of Alois Pichler, a

widow's favour before he died. The nephew demanded a post-mortem and She is said to have had an all-consuming passion for the roulette wheels and blackjack tables of Vienna's sumptuous casinos. The pensioner with dyed blonde hair and blue-tinted By Saturday she had confessed to two glasses is said to have been murders; by yesterday, five. The police glasses is said to have been a regular too at the gaming tables of Baden, the old Habsburgian spa town just outside Vienna. She was last spotted there in her fur

the investigation: her law-Pichler was found to have yer Harald Schmidt, aldied of beart failure leged to have helped her al-ter the wills of the brought on by the slow ingestion of diabetic medi-

vember last year. But he

had altered his will in the

cine over a period of purported victims, and two months.

The police say this was paid £20,000 for acting as the favoured murder method, the addition of will. medicine to food and drink over lengthy periods result-ing in seemingly natural

believe there is more to be revealed

property, and cash be-

queathed to her are said to

Three other people are in

custody in connection with

have run into millions.

At first she denied every thing. By Saturday she had

Pichler had apparently deaths. The widow's earn the police said. By yester-died of a heart attack in No- ings from bank accounts, day, five. The police believe that there is more to be

"Nothing touches her. She's as cold as ice," said Werner Windisch of the Austrian CID.

They have researching the lonely hearts columns in an attempt to trace her appeals are opening up the graves of the alleged victims to conduct fresh post-

Among the killings she has allegedly confessed to is that of her husband. Rudolf Blauensteiner, who died in 1992 at the age of 52. Mr Schmidt is said to told the police that after the death of Pichler last November, Mrs Blauensteiner told him she

Row brews 'crusade'

Bosnia between the United States and its European Nato allies is looming as Washington insists on taking a far more aggressive role in pursuing war criminals and in arming and training Bosnian government

In two recent decisions the US defence secretary, William Perry, has alarmed his European allies in the force implementing the Dayton peace deal by widening US reponsibilities in Bosnia.

Mr Perry has authorised US troops to escort and provide facilities for human rights and war crimes investigators, and has also an extension of the second se and has also permitted con-troversial US-sponsored training missions of the Bosnian army to begin within the pext two months

Next month, retired US servicemen who will train the Bosnian army will join the 20,000 US troops and the new Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) mission in Bosnia. The creeping escalation of US involvement is set to accelerate orders to help in the investigation of war crimes.

"We have no reason to wait," Mr Perry said of the training mission, which Pentagon sources say will cost up to \$400 million (£250 million), depending on the arms in the package. The use of retired US officers working for a private company is a device to minimise official US government involvement.

"If the war crimes tribunal wants to go to Srebrenica and dig up some graves, we'll provide the security that allows them to do that," Mr Perry

lan Traynor in Bonn and John Palmer in Brussels

ERMANY'S increas-

ingly fractious debate over a single European

row inside government ranks for the first time, with the two top figures in Bavaria's rul-

ing Christian Social Union —

part of the federal coalition - at daggers drawn.

The CSU boss, federal fi-nance minister and cheer-

eader of the pro-single cur-

rency camp, Theo Waigel, walked out of a closed CSU

meeting when Edmund

Stoiber, the Bavarian prime minister, threatened to break

ranks on economic and mone-

tary union and run for re-election on a Euro-sceptic

To Mr Waigel's acute dis-comfiture, Mr Stoiber told the meeting that the single cur-

rency was inconceivable without Italy and Spain.

Their chances of meeting the

membership terms on time are generally regarded as

countries are fit for EMU is to

be taken in 1998, the same

year as the next general elec-tions in both Germany and the state of Bavaria. Mr

Stoiber warned he was about

to go public with his opposi-

tion to the fervent pro-EMU course of Chancellor Helmut

Kohl's Christian Democratic

government, of which Mr Stoiber's CSU is a member,

This throws up the unset-tling prospect of the Christian

Democrats running nation-

ally for the single currency while their sister party in Ba-

varia campaigns against it.
Senior CSU officials sought to play down the rumpus. But Mr Stoiber's salvo deeply em-

Kohl coalition

contrast to the cooler British response to claims that there are mass graves at the Ljubija mine in western Bosnia.

European Nato forces are privately dubious about more aggressive US support for war crimes inquiries and its readi ness to arm the Bosnians.

"Either way we have a problem," one European dip lomat in Washington sald yesterday. "If the US restricts its support for war crimes esearchers to its own zone, then people can drive a wedge between the US and the allies. And neither France nor Britain are too keen to have their own politically delicate sec-tors complicated by an American war crimes crusade.

The most delicate areas, Pale and Sarajevo, are in the French sector, and the Ljubija mines and the tense Mostar are in the British sector. The most discreet area of

US involvement is a new clan-destine mission run by the CIA and military intelligence to monitor the activities of opponents of the Dayton deal.
President Bill Clinton is un-

likely to face much criticism from the Republican congress: last month the US senate backed the mission on condition that the White government forces.

Mr Perry has said the US will take care to allay Euro-pean fears. "I think they understand at this stage we we will work this in the context of an arms control agree-ment," he said at the weekend. day refused to release Sarb prisoners of war, the internanian government says the Bos-nian Serbs have not accounted for thousands of Muslims who them to do that," Mr Perry | went missing on Serb-held ter-said. His comments were in ritory during the war.

Russian opposition unites to condemn attack • Commander led White House storming

President takes gambles on tough stance

David Hearst in Moscow

IS voice was breathless, his face pale, but as Bohis face paie, out to Red Square yesterday, there was no mistaking the president's purpose. Mr Yeltsin said: "When we have them cornered, and we are sure there are no hostages with them, then they must be ... All millions of Russians heard was the sound of his

hand hitting his fist. This was the Russian president at his most forceful, in control of an operation he de-scribed as carefully planned. "We have 38 snipers," the commander-in-chief of the Russian army growled, "each is following his target and when his target moves, he moves. And smoke was spread in the streets, so that

0600 Russian forces begin artillery barrage. 0630 Security official says attack launched after gun-

men began killing captives. 0830 Tass says Russian special forces have moved into village.Rebels fire back. 1000 Tass says at least one Russian soldier killed. 1215 Tass says Chechens' outer defences breached. 1230 Yeltsin says operation will be over by day's end with little bloodshed.

1400 Rebel leader Salman Raduyev quoted as saying his group had no intention of killing hostages. 1600 Russian news agencies

say troops have freed nine hostages. Darkness falls.

when the hostages run, it would be difficult [for the Chechensi to kill them. sion showed just how premature was the president's de-scription of events in Pervomayskaya, Dagestan. Since the first hours of the hostage-taking in Kizlyar a week ago, Mr Yeltsin had

been wriggling in a trap.
With his army in the
middle of a war. Mr Yeltsin could not afford to let the hos-tage-takers go. He had to be seen to act, after the fiasco in the southern Russian town of Budyonnovsk last year when Chechen hostage takers returned home as national

But nor could be afford to spill yet more blood of innocent civilians. Still less could he afford to do so on Dages-tani soil. Although part of the Russian Federation, Dagestan is a national republic. whose leadership repeatedly warned. Moscow not to open fire. Mr Yeltsin could only hope

yesterday to emerge with some hostages alive. But a war-mongering president, who starts battles he cannot finish, may be the worst image to present to voters. The electorate he will face in June this year, if he decides to run again for the presi-dency, is heartily sick of television pictures of burning buildings, and Russian citizens mourning the dead. The opposition in the State

Duma, which opens today, seized on the president's dis-comfort. Gennady Zyuganov, the Communist Party leader, said: "The president, the government and their incompe-tent policies are to blame for everything that has happened. This is the continuation of the old politics, whereby the authorities are incapable of en-

The liberal economist Grigory Yavlinsky, who offered himself as a replacement for the hostages, predicted the as-sault would have a big impact on the political fortunes of the president and the government. He warned that the crisis could seriously affect relations with Dagestan.

Mr Yeltsin's former human rights adviser, Sergei Kova-lyov, appealed to his presi-dent on public radio: "Stop the senseless destruction of every living thing in Pervopeople, a terrorist is the same as a Russian gunner or a pilot or a so-called liberator, if he is killed by their builets."

Only the extreme nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky sup-ported Mr Yeltsin. He said it was all a Western, FBI-spon-sored plot to start a civil war

Last night the opposition was meeting to decide on its tactics. Mr Zyuganov, who looks the strongest presidential challenger after his party's victory in December's parliamentary elections, is likely to resist calls for a noconfidence vote. His interest lies in keeping Mr Yeltsin's least popular ministers in power for as long as possible.
The prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, yesterday failed to attend a meeting of

the Council of Ministers,

claiming "sickness". Mr Chernomyrdin was the hero of the hour last summer when he negotiated a peaceful end to the hostage-taking in Budyonnovsk. But Mr Yeltsin criticised the prime minister yesterday when he said that half the Chechens who took part in the Budyonnovsk operation had reappeared in



A Russian soldier prevents a woman from approaching the village of Pervomayskaya after troops launched their assault

Taking Yeltsin's flak in Dagestan

The man in the Chechen firing line has a shield in the Kremlin, writes David Hearst

IKEAL BARSUKOV to Dzhokhar Dudayev's fighters.

As head of the Kremlin the Federal Security Service, politically the least secure job in the president's gift. It is not difficult to see why. His predecessor had been

sacked because of the spectacılar hostage taking by Chechen guerrillas in the southern Russian town of Budyonnovsk last June. He was being offered a service demoralised by reform, weakened by the constant to the free market, but facing a formidable array of opponents, from the mafia | presidential bodyguard. Al- | interior ministry.

ential of the two.

fighters.
As head of the Kremlin bodyguard, the general de-partment of protection (GDP), General Barsukov had at the age of 48 a position of power without res-ponsibility. He was being asked to exchange the comfort of relative anonymity for one of the most visible jobs in Russia. No wonder he agreed only after securing guarantees from the president himself.

One of his chief insurance policies is the fact that his friend General Alexander Korzhakov is head of the

though nominally Gen Bar-sakov's subordinate, his closeness to the president makes him the more influ-

It was Gen Korzhakov patronage that gained him rapid promotion from colo-nel to four-star general at the head of the GDP, which replaced the KGB's ninth directorate in providing Kremlin security after the fall of the Soviet Union. He is known in the ser

vice as "the Badger", both tenacious as a leader and ferocious as an opponent. His first act was to sack a bevy of top KGB generals. Then he regained most of the powers the KGB lost, including the power to investigate other ministries, principally the corrupted

He was one of the orga-nisers of the storming of the White House to end the parliamentary revolt in Oc-tober 1993. But one of his crack units from the old KGB, the Alpha group, refused to fight, and Gen Barsukov was held responsible.

Since Budyonnovsk, all the special forces have had and threatened to run on an anti-single currency ticket front line experience, but Afghan veterans say they are still a shadow of their former selves.

Once the cream of the army, they now share the low pay of other troops. One former special forces paratrooper in Ryazan said: "Why risk your life in Chechenia, when you know that the state will not look after your widowed wife and orphaned children?"

splits on EMU the announcement that his own government's deficit last year was 3.6 per cent — well above the Maastricht Treaty's

single currency ceiling of 3 per cent. single currency row also highlights how the conflict in Germany is not so much be-

main political forces. Mr Stoiber, on the right, is tions to the single currency idea as Gerhard Schroeder, a leading opposition Social Democrat on the centre left. At the weekend, he called for a renegotiation of the Maastricht terms and demanded a postponement of the 1999 launch date. He also faces stiff resistance from Euro-en-thusiasts in his own party.

Otmar Issing, of the board of the Bundesbank, Germany's central bank, joined the chorus of doubters, accusing EU leaders of a lack of seriousness.

By contrast, Mr Waigel argues that any delay could see the project unravel and signal a free-for-all by speculators non-existent.
The decision on which on foreign exchanges, further strengthening an already overvalued German mark, hurting German exports and

At the weekend Dr Kohl re-affirmed his unwavering commitment to the conditions and timetable for the single cur-rency. But a stagnating Ger-man economy and a general downturn across Europe are generating fears that the launch will need to be delayed.

President Jacques Chirac said in Paris yesterday he had had several exchanges with Chancellor Kohl about how to lead Europe into a cycle of

Karl Lamers, foreign policy spokesman for Dr Kohl's barrassed his party leader. Chris-one of the architects of the single currency plan. Mr Waigel's first embar-pact. Christian Democrat party. has already proposed an EMU employment and stability

France fights Britain for Middle East arms deals

industry is prompting fears of further

strikes, writes Alex Duval Smith in Paris

defence industry, France is Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, engaged in a desperate race to | began in earnest with Presiwin orders from Middle East dent Jacques Chirac's elec-markets where Britain has a tion in May. Mr Millon has strong footbold.

Yesterday - two days after region. a visit by the Defence Minister. Michael Portillo - his

peting the "superior" quality

their British equivalents.

■ EARFUL of a new round of strikes, this time over massive job cuts in its East markets, including made several visits to the

Unlike other Western countries. France has main-French counterpart François tained an export-dependent Millon flew to Kuwait trum defence industry of cold-war defence industry of cold-war proportions. But its defence of French naval missiles over | chiefs expect the government axe to fall at any moment. ployee status as were the

next two years. The French government

fears that the prospect of such devastating job cuts — which dustries, estimated at up to will be highlighted tomorrow 12 billion francs (£1.6 billion). was buying 350 combat airwhen a leading tanks and French MPs fear a heated weapons manufacturer an- reaction from the quarter of a nounces massive losses — million people who are em-could spark strikes similar to ployed directly in the French those which paralysed the defence industry.
country last month.

René Galy-Dejean, a right-

the French navy is today ex- said yesterday: "We have a pected to recommend that great deal of rationalisation state-owned naval shipyards to do. In the last few years should seek partnerships governments have been putwith the private sector. But naval shipyards employ

A working party report on wing MP and defence expert, ting off changes which should

With the added bitter pill United States manufacturers

craft a year. This year, it is buying 47. So France has a new, efficient competitor."
There have already been job cuts in the French defence industry, which in 1982 em-

24,000 workers who are as the world map changed in jealous of their state-em- 1989." Jean-Paul Hébert, an inde 105 billion francs projected 2025.

The prospect of job losses in the defence | They say privately that up to | transport workers who went | pendent defence analyst, | for this year. Analysts say the | figure | changed. Ten years ago. 75 billion francs.

Critics of the government argue that President Chirac's decision, only a month after his election, to resume nuclear testing was, in part, aimed at softening the blow for the military lobby.

France's traditionally independent and secretive defence industry has recently tried to ployed more than 300,000 strengthen links with foreign people Revenue from defence manufacturers. Last month, sales, which in five years has Dassault Aviation, whose Rafallen by 20 per cent to fale fighter plane project is on 97 billion francs, will conhold because of defence budget cuts, launched a partner-

News in brief

Mexico seizes took pay-offs worth over \$28 million and paid bribes to trafficker

Mexican police have captured one of the world's most wanted drug traffickers, the cartel chief, Juan Garcia Abrego, Mexico's Radio Red reported yesterday.

The radio said a special convoy took Garcia Abrego, on the FBI's wanted list, from a hangar at Mexico City air. port to a high security jail on the city outskirts. — Reuter.

inquiry call

Spain's opposition parties are seeking an inquiry into newspaper allegations that Enriarrange for a multinational construction project. — AP.

Papers accused Turkey says it plans legal action against the European and the Scottish Daily Record which it claims published false reports about the army's

treatment of Kurds and the activities of Turkish diplomats. - AP. Egyptian U-turn

in an unexpected about-turn, Egypt's state prosecutor de-cided yesterday not to help Nacy About 2011 Nasr Abu Zeid, a professor of tinue to decline.

President Chirac has indicated that state spending on defence is to be cut from the december of the Socialist prime defence is to be cut from the duce a new fighter plane by defence is to be cut from the duce and duce a new fighter plane by defence is to be cut from the duce and duce a new fighter plane by defence is to be cut from the duce and duce and duce and duce a new fighter plane is to be cut from the duce and duce and duce and duce and duce and duce

Sept.

Humbled Roh 'ready for punishment'

AULED into court and charged with pocketing over a £430 million about £240 million in crooked payments. Mr Roh appeared payments. Mr Roh appeared to the court of South Korea's business barons yesterday told of visiting the former president, Roh Tae-woo, at his official residence, the Blue House, to hand over cheques and envelopes stuffed with money.
But all denied paying

bribes in return for specific favours and claimed their payments were part of accepted business practice in a system that made massive po-litical "donations" indispensable to corporate success.

The testimony of executives from Daewoo, Samsung and two other conglomerates came after Mr Roh — a former gen-eral who ruled South Korea from 1988 to 1993 — declared himself ready for any punishment — and thus unwilling to face cross examination.

Arrested two months ago

for his second day in court wearing a light-blue prison uniform and rubber slippers. However, in deference to his former status, he was spared the indignity of being handcuffed and having a rope around his torso, the customary treatment for prisoners. He is reported to be reading Margaret Thatcher's memoirs

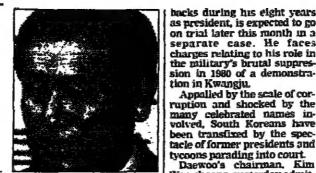
"Since I do not want anyone else to be punished in connec-tion with this, I would neither make any excuse nor want any cross-examination aimed at easing punishment," he sald in a statement read out to a courtroom packed with spectators, most of whom had waited for seats overnight in freezing rain.

to help fortify himself.

Mr Rob's lawyer, Kim Yoo-

Spared the indignity of being handcuffed, Mr Roh is said to be reading Margaret Thatcher's memoirs to fortify himself

president had taken money, but said he had been careful in choosing corporations from which to accept cash.
"He only received donations from those companies with sound financial foundations," Mr Kim said. "He even rejected offers for donations by businessmen having finan-



Yesterday's hearing at the Seoul district court was the first since the hribery trial opened a month ago. Also on trial are eight businessmen and six former aides.

Mr Roh's predecessor and mentor, the former president Chun Doo-hwan, who was charged last week with taking about £180 million in kick-

backs during his eight years | evidence of kickbacks range as president, is expected to go from nuclear power stations on trial later this month in a and roads to the military's separate case. He faces purchase of 120 F-16s. charges relating to his role in the military's brutal suppres-

Appalled by the scale of cor-ruption and shocked by the many celebrated names in-volved, South Koreans have been transfixed by the spectacle of former presidents and tycoons parading into court. Daewoo's chairman, Kim Woo-choong yesterday admit-ted giving Mr Roh about mentary election, calling it a long-established tradition. Such is the public appetite for information that televi-Lawyers for the Samsung con-glomerate called such pay-

ments a "pseudo-tax". However, prosecutors beThe court heard detailed de-

scriptions of a meeting at the Blue House in March 1992 attended by three business-men. The businessmen knew they were supposed to leave money, but were not sure how much. Asked what sum would be appropriate, a presidential aide advised: "The more the better, because it is election time." They left a white envelope with the equivalent of more than £2 million.

the session began. Television stations have se

up temporary studios outside lieve the money was tied to the courtroom, and hundreds specific contracts. Deals curd of riot police ringed the court

News in brief

Papandreou 'certain to resign this week'

GREEK Socialist officials said vesterday they were certain the ailing prime minister, Andreas Papandreou, will resign this week, paving the way for his party to replace him and end the two-month political crisis. "This is the decision he will take and would take, the decision useful for the land," the Socialist speaker of parliament, Apostolos Kaklamanis, said after meet-ing President Constantine Stephanopoulos to discuss Mr Pa-

pandreou's resignation. Socialists have spent a week trying to persuade the prime minister to resign before he is forced out of office, making the transfer of power easier and ensuring they finish their four-year term. If Mr Papandreou refuses to stand down, a growing number of deputies have sald they will replace him anyway, which could prompt a constitutional crisis. Under the constitu-

tion, Mr Papandreou — who has been in hospital since November 20 — can only be replaced if he resigns or dies.

The party central committee will meet on Saturday to tell Socialist deputies to pick a new prime minister. The defence minister, Gerassimos Arenis, and the former industry minister Costas Simitis are candidates to succeed Mr Papandreou.

Mr Papandreou's wife Dimitra has accused his children and ex-wife of orchestrating attacks against her and said she will fight attempts to replace him. She told the Colt magazine: "The family is trying to take over Papandreou's political inheritance... They want Dimitra outside of all this." — Agencies, Athens.

East German leaders on trial

SIX former East German communist leaders were back in court in Berlin yesterday to face manslaughter charges for the border killings of refugees trying to flee to the West during the cold war. The trial of Egon Krenz and five other members of the old olithuro was suspended in November while one of the defenlants underwent an operation for a kidney tumour. Lawyers for Mr Krenz, East Germany's last hardline ruler,

mmediately asked for the trial to be suspended as Mr Krenz told the court that the former Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, had assured him after talks with Chancellor Helmut Kohl before German unification in 1990 that East Berlin leaders would not be tried before all-German courts. "It would not come to the point where one legal system would judge the other," Mr Krenz said he had been told.

The defendants face 47 manslaughter charges and 24 of at-tempted manslaughter for the killings of East Germans trying to cross to West Germany. Mr Krenz and his defence team have dismissed the case as a political show trial designed to settle the West's old scores with communism. — Reuter, Berlin.

Marcos millions disputed

TALKS were held in Hong Kong yesterday to settle claims to the estimated £300 million stashed away in Swiss bank accounts by the late dictator of the Philippines, Ferdinand Marcos, part of a

£3 billion cache Manila alleges he spirited away. Lawyers for thousands of human rights victims and relatives of people who suffered abuse during Marcos's 20-year rule attended the talks with Philippine government officials and Swiss bankers.

But representatives from the biggest organisation representing those claiming abuse objected to a deal between the lead counsel for the victims' grouping and the Philippine government that would result in charges being dropped against the Marcos family, recluding Implied Marcos the William of the letter distribution. including Imelda Marcos, the widow of the late dictator.

The deal is for an out-of-court financial settlement, which will lear the way for the government's own claim to the Marcos billions. — Reuter, Hong Kong.

Nigerian police thwarted

OPPOSITION groups in Nigeria yesterday thwarted riot police who prevented a service to honour the victims of military rule by

ses said that at dawn 100 riot police took over the Shitta area of Lagos, the scheduled venue of the multi-religious service, to prevent the event from taking place after it had been declared illegal by the authorities.

We saw Shitta swamped this morning not only by the police but also the army and, following prior arrangements, we moved to another area where we conducted a Christian and a Muslim

ervice," said Tunji Adebiyi of the National Democratic Coalition

service," said Tunji Adebiyi of the National Democratic Coalinon (Nadeco) opposition group.

Mr Adebiyi said 200 people gathered less than half a mile away and prayed for those Nigerians who have either died or were detained for their pro-democracy activities.

The service was organised by the Campaign for Democracy and Nadeco as part of activities which started on Thursday when their members paid condolence visits to "all known martyrs". — Reu-

Burma forced labour inquiry

THE European Commission is expected to launch an investiga-tion today into forced labour in Burma, which could lead the European Union to withdraw trade concessions

This would be the first use of controversial EU legislation. linking trade privileges for developing countries to labour standards. The investigation follows allegations by European and international trade union organisations that Burma's military authorities force people to work on transport, commercial and tourism projects. The commission is also considering launching a similar investigation on Pakistan. — Julie Wolf, Brussels.

Success for 'pro-SS' party

A DEPUTY from the Freedom Party of the rightwing Austrian populist Jörg Haider was yesterday voted into a leading parliamentary position despite controversy about Mr Haider's recent

Willi Brauneder was elected second deputy to the president of parliament with the help of the conservative People's Party. Austria's second political force, which is now assured of Freedom Party support to elect its candidate, Waltraud Klasnic, as gover-

nor of the southwestern Styria province next Tuesday. In an address to former members of the Waffen-SS last September, broadcast in December by German and Austrian television. Mr Halder praised members of the organisation as "men of character" who had remained loyal to their convictions despite political "headwind". His comments triggered outrage and calls

for him to leave parliament. His subsequent attempt—at the insistence of President
Thomas Klestil— to distance himself from his remarks was
rejected as insufficient by the Social Democrats and two other
smaller parties, the Liberal Forum and the Greens.—AP. Vienna.



Brothers in arms ... Portugal's prime minister, Antonio Guterres (left), congratulates fellow Socialist Jorge Sampaio yesterday on his presidential victory PHOTOGRAPH: LUIS RAMOS

Gay young things

THE more sons a mother has, the greater the chance that her next son will be homosexual, a new study of 302 gay and 302 heterosexual men says. Researchers in Toronto said this might be a result of the mother's immune system acting on the male foetus, or the psychological effect of growing up with older brothers. Forty-five per cent of men with no older brothers were gay

compared with 53 per cent of men with one such brother and 64 per cent of men with two such brothers. Pive of the seven with four or more older brothers were gay. Sisters and younger brothers made no difference. - AP. New York.

UK chided over boat people

Nick Cumming-Bruce in Bangkok

The Callette

oalition

on EMU

171. 7. 1 -

Section 1

30 mm

HINESE officials took a dig at Britain's policy on Vietnamese boat people in Hong Kong yester-day, reminding authorities in the colony they had just 534 days to fulfil their obligation of sending them all back before China takes over.

Bangkok which agreed to no other choice but to return measures to accelerate the return of more than 39,000. They do not apply to Hong Vietnamese from camps in Hong Kong and around South-East Asia, accepting the use of force if necessary. Britain bore "an unshirka-

ble responsibility" for the boat people problem because of its policy of allowing Hong Kong to be used as a country of first asylum for fleeing Vietnamese, Cheng Sousan declared. Their presence was a factor that could adversely affect Hong Kong's prosperity and stability, he chided.

The number of boat people epatriated from Hong Kong July 1, 1997, but we hope the problem can be settled before

Responding to concern from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and South-East Asian govern-ments, Vietnam agreed yesdures for all boat people in their camps within two months to clear the way for their repatriation within the first half of the year. The UNHCR proposes to wind down its support for

wind down its support for boat people in those camps in the same period, a senior offi-cial, Alessandro Casella, said. These measures were in-tended, as a Malaysian offi-

cial put it, to give boat people The comment came from a "a very clear message that Chinese official attending a there is no more time, there is meeting of 28 countries in no more extension . . . there is

They do not apply to Hong Kong which, with close to 22,000 Vietnamese in its camps, accounts for more boat people than the rest of South-East Asia combined. About half of these have been cleared for repatriation by Vietnamese authorities. Hong Kong's secretary for security, Peter Lai, noted yes-terday. He added that 500 people had volunteered to

return in the past week.

The problem will be winning the acquiescence of the hard core. "We do not like to use force and if we are faced in 1995 was less than a third with the inevitable need to the number in 1994. "The use force we will use a minifinal deadline of course is mum," Mr Lai said. Mr Casella confirmed the

UNHCR will finance the transport of boat people to Viet-nam, even where force is used. "The world will not see pictures of screaming refugees [being forced on to aircraft] because they are not refu-



Pregnant woman among hostages

John Agilonby in Jakarta

the indonesian province of Irian Jaya is pregnant, a change for food and medicaptive freed temporarily revealed yesterday.

The others are in good speaks fluent Indonesian

world white was was asked to explain the released yesterday by his Free Papua Movement (OPM) captors to present their demands to pursuing their demands to pursuing the captors," he said. "But he will have to go back."

The OPM is still holding

Indonesian forces. that Martha Klein, a Dutch ates Daniel Start, William Unesco worker who is Oates, Annette van der Kolk among those being held by

mand for an aeroplane or tists, mainly from Jakarta. They began their second pilot in exchange for the week in captivity yesterday. "We would only send an aircraft to collect the hostages, but not for meaning the send and the se

joyo, an army spokesman. Mr Momberg told Indone-sian television: "We are being treated well and have away, and sources say more been given enough food than 1,000 soldiers are in None of us has been taken the area.

ill. Unfortunately, Martha Klein is pregnant and an-One of seven Westerners being held hostage by separatists in
a remote jungle village in the town of Wamena in ex-

health and are being and knows the area well. treated well.

One of the hostages, a German researcher for the World Wide Fund for Nawarno. "Mr Momberg was asked to explain the was asked to exp

heir demands to pursuing andonesian forces.

Mr Momberg disclosed clude the Cambridge gradu-Oates, Annette van der Kolk and Anna McIvor; two the OPM, is pregnant.

The Indonesian military der Wal and Ms Klein; and have rejected the rebels' de several Indonesian scien

aircraft to collect the hostages, but not for use by the rehels." said Brigadier-General Suwarno Adivijoyo, an army spokesman.

Magundums. Indonesian priests who were taken yesterday to the rebel base, believed to be in the mountainous village of Mapundums. Indonesian the priests who were taken yes transfer. forces have set up their base in Wamena, 25 miles



tinian elections on

Inan hang on the words of are expected to suspend Jonathan Kutab, who is campaigning today to pronew self-rule Palestinian detention of more than Council in the first Pales 4,000 Palestinian prisoners. 4,000 Palestinian prisoners. Only around 55,000 Pales-

tinians in the city have reg-

and the campaign there has been lacklustre.

Israel, which only grudg-ingly conceded the right of Jerusalem people to take part in the elections, insists

united under its control.
The PLO chairman, Yasser Arafat, who has scarcely troubled to cam-paign. will be in the selfrule enclave of Jericho today to greet the visiting US vice-president, Al the city will remain forever | Gore. - Derek Brown.

Lesotho's king dies in car crash

Chris McGreal in Johannesburg reports | pendence from Britain 30 | on the throne as Letsie III. on the eventful life of Moshoeshoe II and his tiny southern African mountain domain

mountain kingdom for a second time. Initial reports said his car swerved off a winding mountain road while travelling from the royal village in rural Lesotho.
The 57-year-old king, who

ING MOSHOESHOE II of Lesotho was killed in a car accident yesterday, just a year after he was restored to the throne of his own political ambitions. But his fortunes, like those of his subjects, were also subject to the political currents of South Africa, which surrounds the

kingdom.
The demands of the apartheid state helped depose him six years ago, and the changes which subsequently swept the region lifted him back on to the throne in 1996.

The South African president, Nelson Mandela, described the king's death as a loss to the continent. "King Moshoeshoe was a

great friend of the people of South Africa, an able leader and one of the world's reigning monarchs who unequivo-cally embraced democracy within the context of the history and traditions of their

years ago, King Moshoeshoe unilaterally attempted to increase his powers. The elected civilian government forced him to back down and sign an undertaking recognis-ing that constitutional power lay with the prime minister. From then on he played a limited if sometimes confron-tational political role, although he could prove a rally-

ing point at times of crisis. In 1970 he was placed under house arrest when the prime minister, Leabua Jonathan, refused to accept an election defeat and used the army to retain power. The king was reinstated within the year. after he agreed to remain apart from politics.

But he waded into the fray again after the army seized power in 1986 with the assistance of South Africa's apartheid regime. Pretoria was disgruntled at the support given the then-banned ANC by Lesotho's previous government. and had virtually shut down the kingdom by blockading its borders.

When the feud came to a nations," his statement said.
That was not always the case. Within months of inde- 1990. The military put his son Obitoury, page 10

Moshoeshoe returned to Lesotho in July 1992, but his throne was not restored until after Letsie provoked a con-stitutional crisis in 1994 by dismissing the elected gov-ernment, bringing a threat of military intervention from South Africa and other south-

The king's death adds to the uncertainty in Lesotho, which is concerned that changes in South Africa may be to its detriment, particularly proposals to limit the number of foreign workers in the gold mines, Lesotho's main source of income after aid Lesotho's 1.8 million people

had mixed feelings about

their king. Before his exile he was popular with some, in part because he was visible in the community. But others were suspicious of his political ambitions. After his reinstatement last year he kept a lower profile and made no evident forays into politics. His widow will temporarily sit on the throne while a college of chiefs decides who is to succeed him. He had one

other son beside Letsie III.

What a shambles. Terry Venables on the retreat amid foetid gusts of scandal. Jack Rowell, apparently soured after less than two years in the job. Ray Illingworth enduring a public excoriation by a player whose confidence he destroyed.

Richard Williams page 16

The Guardian

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Teaching moral values

Curriculum bosses seem divided over their aims

practise but seldom preach. Yesterday, with implicit ministerial blessing, the Government's chief curriculum advisers organised a conference on moral values. Good for them. A debate about values could bring relief to a school system which has been required to put so much emphasis on preparation for work that preparation for life has undoubtedly suffered. It provides an opportunity for teachers to remind parents that education has wider goals than just academic success. In the new competitive education market, many schools have downplayed PSE - personal and social education. There are no exams and no league tables in such a subject. There is also little agreement about what should be taught. Hence the conference.

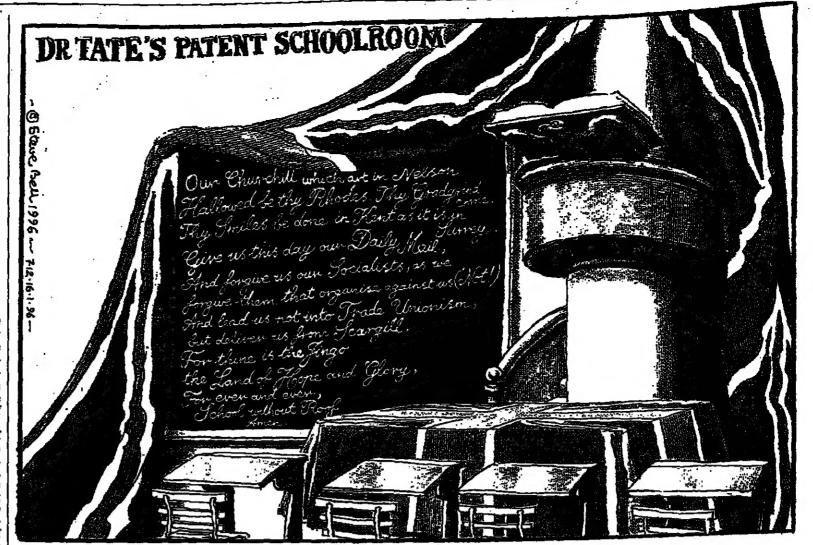
Values are shaped by family, peer group, media, religious leaders as well as schools. Teachers only have children for 15 per cent of their waking time, so the role of the school needs to be kept in perspective. Yet schools do have a crucial role. Even early leavers will have spent 15,000 hours within school walls. The ethos of the school can play as important a part as the formal curriculum. Yet, as one delegate yesterday noted, what is set out in the school prospectus is not necessary a close reflection of what children experience from their peer group within the school. The first goal of every school should be an explicit statement on the values that guide its practice — and an honest annual assssment of how far it

The keynote speech was delivered in a robust style from the chief executive of the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority, Nicholas Tate. Dr Tate, a committed christian, rues the decline

BERTRAND Russell was right. Britain of religious faith. Yet, as AJ Ayer, the has always enjoyed two kinds of moral- moral philosopher, noted, no morality ity side by side: one we preach but do can be founded on authority, even if the not practise, and another which we authority is divine. Dr Tate needs to reread his Plato: if God approves of certain actions because they themselves are morally right, not that they are morally right because God approves of them, then God is logically dispensable. Dr Tate is also upset by the spread of "pervasive relativism". In one of his definitions—"that morality is largely a matter of taste or opinion"—he has a right to be upset. In another, over the hesitancy of trainee teachers imposing ethnocentric, class or gender values he is wrong. Not all such values are universal. Trainees are right to be wary of imposing them. He misjudges, too, the importance of fostering "self esteem" a sense of identity and self-worth are crucial in building up a child's self confidence. Without such confidence, children's progress is severely restricted.

> The curriculum bosses seemed divided over their aims. Sir Ron Dearing, the chairman, insisted the curriculum authority did not want to impose a rigid moral standard. Yet Dr Tate, the chief executive, seemed eager to set up a national forum that could draw up a modern day version of the Ten Commandments for schools. Dr Tate should take more care: only last year his boss promised schools there would be no further changes to the school curriculum for five years. Breaking promises is morally wrong.

> What was missing from yesterday's speeches was a tribute to the underlying morality of the British public. For over a decade they have been encouraged to pursue individual rather than collective goals yet the polls still show a large majority in favour of helping the poor, disadvantaged, and dispossessed, Ministers should take note: a fairer society would be a more moral society.



Tony Blair's stake in the future

market and civil-liber-ties think-tank, I find Michael Heseltine's attacks on Tony Blair's stakeholder economy most peculiar (Singapore salutes Blair, January 9). Clearly Mr Heseltine has forgotten that the most suc-

cessful high-street retailer is the John Lewis Partnership and that other household ful high-street retailer is names such as BUPA, PPP, the AA, and the Co-operative Bank are all institutions grounded upon the principles of mutuality and member and/or worker co-operation. Does Mr Heseltine really believe he is going to help the Tories win the next election by persuading the British people that BUPA and the John Lewis Partnership represent a dangerous return to the state corporatism of the 1970s? Or, indeed, that health and welfare provided by a trade-union friendly society is reminiscent of Soviet-style economics? Chris R Tame.

Libertarian Alliance, 25 Chapter Chambers, Esterbrooke Street,

T IS deeply gratifying to us Liberal Democrat trade unionists to see that Andrew Gamble and Gavin Kelly (How to raise the stakes, Jan-

ain's Industrial Future, 1928. I see that Offa's Dyke is up for sale among the assets from the privatisation of British Coal. While deploring the ravages of Tory privatisations, we have never been against private ownership per

se but against private owner-ship of the public good. We have always stood for partnership in industry between employer and employee, employee share-ownership and consultation of the workforce, and we have now embraced the concept of a minimum wage — a mini-mum hourly rate, weighted regionally — which was set out by our predecessors all those years ago. (Clir) Pamela Sylvester. ALDTU News Editor, 7 Salisbury Street, Cranborne, Dorset.

HE worker co-operative movement as Will Hutton rightly says (Comment Page. January 9), has continued to embody the values of worker participation, equal opportdeeply rooted in the regions

Despite the antipathetic cli-mate, co-operatives are doing well and moving into areas lieves they have "a stake" in Durham DRI 4QW.

S THE director of the uary 15) have re-discovered where an ethical approach principles set out by the Libert warket and civil-liberties think-tank, I find Michael in the Yellow Book — Britises think-tank, I find Michael in the Yellow Book — Britises for everyone. The Hutton's analysis of Tony existence of scores of homecare co-operatives in the UK and of highly successful ventures like Greenwich Leisure, where seven local authority leisure centres are now in democratic employee control are testimony to this.

Helen Seymour. Charlie Cattell. Industrial Common Ownership Movement, Vassali House, 20 Central Road,

LISTEN with incredulity to what John Major has said about the privatised utilities cient", "customers getting a better service", "people be-lieving they have a stake in them". I have just taken early retirement from British Gas after 30 years' service. "Establishment from British Gas after 30 years' service." aner 30 years' service. "Efficiency" seems to equate with fewer employees. But much of the work which was carried out in BG is no longer done. "Better service" seems to be judged merely by price and seems to be price and seems to be judged merely by price and seems to be price and seems to be judged merely by price and seems to be price and seems to b to business and of being come down. But how many customers could honestly say

that the service is getting bet-

I can only hope that Will Hutton's analysis of Tony Blair's stakeholder enconomy is right. Richard Dyer-Smith. 9 Albert Road

As TONY Blair distances himself from socialism and the trade unions, presumably this means tying the working class to the stake of the Japanese CBI and big business in general.

ing — disillusion with the lat-ter, however, rapidly set in) I No wonder Arthur Scar-gill's proposals for a real socialist party makes sense destruction of the grammar schools. For many in my genparticularly in Scotland, where the original Labour

AS YOU can see from my address I am not in

nonsense phrase, a tired "shareholder society", which seems flavour of the year in both parties.

Fit for nothing

allowing only those who can

afford it an expensive substi-

tute for the lack of a healthy

Activity Task Force set up by

the Department of Health

recently pointed out, is that a quarter of schoolchildren are

so unfit they are likely to start succumbing to heart attacks

in their 30s. What Lady

Thatcher doesn't see is that what we have all lost from her

attacks on the intricate net-work of things which make up unmonetised "quality of life"

far outweighs what a few have

The result, as the Physical

STEPHEN Pollard's article on selective schooling rings very true. The educa-tional hierarchy of advisers, inspectors etc as usual gave no lead when comprehensive education came in, for they owe their soft jobs to jumping on the latest bandwagon.

Comprehensive

READ Stephen Pollard

(Playing to win, January 10) with a huge sense of relief. We all know of excellent state

schools which are serving their communities as well as

they can in these lean times, but for some years now, both as a parent and a comprehen-sive-school teacher, I have be-

come more and more worried

about what was done to the

grammar schools all those

years ago in the name of

social engineering.

As an enthusiast for com-

prehensive schools (and, at

the time, mixed-ability teach-

buried my concerns over the

eration, born in the 1930s, the

grammar school was a haven. When the switch was made to

comprehensives, I felt that

the logical approach would be not to destroy what was good but to put a superhuman

effort, in terms of money and will-power, into lifting the provision in the secondary

modern schools. Catherine Henderson.

Mandeville Road, Hertford,

rejection

Our schools are obsessed with the vanished Empire PEOPLE used to keep fit for free by walking and cy-cling or hitting a ball about ethos of prefects, house colours, the effortlessly supe-(Iron in the soul, Review, Janrior amateur etc. Teachers uary 12). But the open spaces and quiet local streets needed opposed the comprehensive system but they don't count. for this have been sold off to They are just left to make the developers and overrun by the best of every theoretical misgreat car economy. The new take forced on them. fitness industry is, in effect, a privatisation of exercise,

J D Taylor. 52 Brumby Wood Lane, Scunthorpe.

As a governor of two pri-don Borough of Barnet I am very concerned about the effect increased selection procedures would have on both children and schools. Do parents really want their children subjected to stressful tests and interviews, possibly

for a number of schools? Surely what parents want is the certainty that their local school will be able to offer all children an excellent education, whatever their particular abilities and needs. Elizabeth Pearson. 53 Lyonsdown Avenue, Barnet,

Herts EN5 1DX.

The fly on Covent Garden's wall

The BBC series is not a pretty sight, but don't shoot the singer

NOT content with giving us the truth about the Gulf War, or at least a version programmes is in many ways a disof it, the BBC this evening also offers grace, and the recent serious cuts imthe inside story of yet another dirty conflict of our times - the battle to impression of an institution which is defend the Royal Opera House against not up to the managerial mark. But its enemies and itself. BBC2's The House is gripping stuff for opera and ballet lovers and is obligatory watching den is going through a purple patch. for anyone with an interest in arts politics generally. But its real interest funded service (whether Covent Garden is as a not untypical case study of the crisis facing our national institutions | The crisis - and it is not the wrong as a result of the enforced contraction of the postwar British state brought about by the Thatcherite revolution.

Covent Garden's general director, Jeremy Isaacs, is to be congratulated for letting the cameras into the Opera House. As viewers will see, and as Mr Isaacs has since conceded, his openness allows some pretty dirty linen to be scrubbed in public. The picture of the flagship of British artistic life which emerges is not particularly flattering. Some of the Opera House's most senior managers emerge in a shameful light. But these horrors mean that one's respect for Covent Garden's poor bloody infantry only increases. Theatres are kept going by dozens of normally unseen people whose dexterity, ingenuity and commitment, invariably on much lower salaries than most of the people who fill the theatre's seats, is quite extraordinary.

It has to be faced that the BBC series will do Covent Garden no political

Opera House which we see in these posed by Mr Isaacs can only add to the don't shoot the singer; he doesn't write the song, and artistically Covent Gar-The problem is that in any publicly or the NHS) we get what we pay for. word for the present state of the Opera House - exists principally because Britain elects governments which enact lower public spending and cuts in personal taxes. Elsewhere in Europe, governments and capital cities recognise the importance of their arts flagships and subsidise them properly. Here we do not have such governments, and as even Lord Howe now admits, we suffer because the same government has ensured that our capital has no voice either. High time for a stakeholder

opera house, perhaps? The tragedy of Covent Garden is only partly the tragedy of weak and wilful management revealed in the films. The wider tragedy is that of our institutions in general. If only more of our national flagships - not least the BBC itself were as ready to bare themselves to the viewers we would see very similar things. Such openness is common in the United States - hence the fascinating Gulf War series - but it remains the

favours at a difficult time. The Royal exception rather than the rule here.

Heavenly fathers

HERE is no problem about bishops' palaces. The prob-lem is those who live in them. So many of the present bench are either angst-ridden liber-als desperate to be politically correct or po-faced Evangeli cals with puritanical instincts that it is hardly surprising they fail to use their palaces properly.
The episcopal residence

should be the social centre of the diocese, where the bishop ntertains - with as muci style as he can muster - his clergy. This is part of his duty to be a shepherd to the shep-herds. But usually the palace sees only the comings and goings of clerical bureaucrats and the grandees of local business and politics. The inferior clergy (unless in trouble or after a job) are kept well away. That the Established Church should be thinking of selling off its palatial assets at the bottom of the property market is, of course, entirely consistent with its record of financial acumen. It did the same thing in the 1960s with its finest vicarages and recto-ries. But the Church of England does not need little houses for its bishops: it needs some bishops of stature and vision to fill its priceless

(Rev Fr) Francis A C S Bown. St Stenhen's Presbytery. 29 Westbourne Avenue, Kingston-upon-Hull, Yorks HU5 3HN.

MY STARTING point in the-ology has always been the belief that the best clue to the nature of God lies in my own. Put simply, I cannot and will not believe in a God who is more unpleasant than I am. If IHitler, then the notion of some sort of everlasting holocaust is so at variance with what I know of myself as to render it wholly unbelievable of the God who said: "Fear not, I am the first and the last." I recall an cottanh on a tombstone which summed it up along the following lines:

Here lies Martin Elginbrod. Have mercy on my soul, Lord God. As I would, were I Lord God,

And you were Martin (Fr) Gary Dobbie. Chaplain, Christ's Hospital, Horsham, W Sussex RH13 7LS.



A licence to kill Auntie

dish it to Europe. Outlook, January 13). I sincerely hope

and regressive tax", but you fail to note that the licence fee is used without any form of public accountability to fund: Exorbitant fees and salaries to the likes of the (littletalented) Dimbleby dynasty. Noel Edmonds, Jimmy Savile, Gloria Hunniford etc whom no self-respecting commercial

YOU ask if the BBC has got enterprise would dream of a future (King bland must employing; • A giant bureaucracy; Sport and organised

Here's an analogy: there are three supermarkets. I prefer You call it an "escalating Abbsbo and Cleanway but am forced to pay \$38 a year to keep Tessbeeb in existence or am not allowed to use the other two. I would like to start a campaign to abolish the BBC. Shirley Day. 64 Granley Road, Cheltenham, Glos GL51 6LH.

More crashes on the Newbury road MY, how the Lib-Dems perfectly serviceable dual car-have blown their "green" riageway. This could easily credentials at Newbury with join a mile of elevated high-

both the local MP and the Lib-Dem leader of the local coun-cil slavering for tougher policing to halt the anti-road protest there.
And haven't the police once

more been cast as this Gov-ernment's hired heavies? It's more than a year since John McGregor, then Transport Secretary, publicly hoped that Michael Howard's repressive Criminal Justice Act would be targeted on antido not will the damnation of roads groups. Finally, at New-any soul, not even that of Adolf bury last week, he got his Hitler, then the notion of some wish — from "even-handed" police who had mostly been standing off in a civil dispute which has little or no criminal content — until some red-faced Whitehall blimp doubtless ordered them to get stuck in. So much, then, for the "honourable British tradition" of protest.

H T Jones. 50 Dangan Road. Wanstead E11 2RF.

DON'T go round Newbury D— go over it. The pro-posed road does not just by-pass the town, it also by-We regret we cannot passes several miles of acknowledge those not used.

way — similar to the M4 at Chiswick, the M6 at Birming ham or the M1 at Sheffield above the existing A34 through Newbury town cen-tre. It would then require a modest road scheme south of Newbury, coupled with two miles of dualling, to complete

the scheme. It is true that elevated roads are expensive but the proposed road already includes major bridges over the environmentally sensitive Kennet and Lambourn rivers. An elevated road could carry a lot more semi-local traffic than a bypass and thus, assuming predictions of traffic increase come to pass, relieve pressure on the town centre for many more years. Dave Headey. 44 Coxwell Road, Faringdon, Oxon SN7 7JX.

Picese include a full postal address, even on e-mailed letters, and a telephone number We may edit letters; shorter ones are more likely to appear.

gained from privatisation of what used to be public assets. Judith Hanna Jansons Road: London N15 4JU.

A Country Diary

SOMERSET: The discovery of | regard pedestrians as legitithe village Friendly Society's mate quarry. And whilst banner has awakened memo there are still plenty of ries of times past, when most of the cottages were lived in by local people who worked on the manor estate rather than by late incomers (like ourseives). There is some nostalgia for the paternalistic style of the community that the village was then. The ac-tivities of the local bunt look, to an ignorant onlooker, to have been largely untouched by time, except for the Range Rovers and modern horse-boxes at the roadside. As you back away to wait in the ditch for the great procession to pass by - hounds, huntsman, master, members of the Runt, all immaculate in traditional finery, and so on down the hierarchy to the youngsters blown away, and lie embedded in tweed hacking jackets - in the lawn to make the nuthe hunters acknowledge you gravely from their great are anxious about what may

coverts for the fox to make for, there are few pavements for the fleeing pedestrian. Because Templecombe Station was miraculously resurrected after Beeching, he can still escape to a rural railway. The sign still says "British Rail" not "Stagecoach", and you can still climb the steps to a homely welcome in the signal-box where you buy your ticket, waiting, if necessary. till the versatile railwayman has finished pulling the levers. In the garden is the sculpture which forms a working sundial. Its central figure is another railwayman who holds a ring-bound timetable. Some of its leaves have been merals of the sundial. People height by raising their crops. It is hard not to touch the forelock. Motorists seem to accept this particular kind of dalay dike tractors sheep and delay (like tractors, sheep and cows) philosophically, but to

JOHN VALLINS

ain over the past few days Dr Boutros-Ghali has argued that the UN is being corroded from within, and that its "serious financial crisis is undermining its effectiveness". This is not to be dismissed, as some Americans do, as bleating from a Secretary-General whose organisation has been under in Bosnia. There is, unsurprisingly, a there is a \$1 billion deficit on the price to pay to sustain the integrity and regular budget and a \$1.5 billion deficit independence of the United Nations.

ous finances and is accusing member the UN to stay afloat so far. But the time governments of enfeebling the United cannot be far off when Boutros-Ghali will have to do a "a Clinton" and lay off Nations by failing to pay their dues. In his world-wide bureaucracy. several speeches and interviews in Brit-The difficulties of persuading the US

An organisation crippled by debt

DR BOUTROS-Ghali is on the war path, | on the peacekeeping budget. The United

and rightly so. None too late, the UN States, alone owes \$1 billion. Russia is

Secretary-General is speaking out another important culprit. Economies

strongly about the world body's peril- and financial gymnastics have enabled

A small levy on air travel is a good way of funding the UN

and other key member countries to meet their commitments are well known. Proposals for supplementing the UN's income to give it a measure of financial independence have been comprehensively ignored. Dr Boutros-Ghali is now seeking to revive two of them: a heavy fire, not least for its performance stamp tax on passports; or a levy on international flight and rail tickets. direct link between any organisation's | This deserves to be taken seriously. The financial resources and its ability to individual amounts charged would be carry out its tasks. The UN is in debt to small: at most £1 and its equivalent in the staggering tune of \$2.5 billion - other currencies. It would be a cheap

emergence as a public figure of Britain's most envied woman. As Vanessa Perry told the Daily Express, being Michael Winner's consort means spending much time in restaurants, listening to the old boy screeching: "Do you know who I am?" at baffled walters. Oddly, Vanessa says she has no plans to marry or start a family (alas, the writer shamefully dwells on Michael's extraordinarily low sperm count). However, fascinating as this is, my eye is par-ticularly caught by a quote reproduced from Michael's Sunday Times restaurant column. About a meal at the Dorchester, he wrote: 'Vanessa's chicken breast had a bone sticking out, which frightened her and had to be removed." We sympathise, of course, with her suffering of such a recherche phobia. But how peculiar that a woman who can tolerate the naked

Nanonymous BBC employee calls to con-firm that the Vision Efficiency Office, Mr Birt's latest fine idea, does indeed exist. When fully set up, it will be run by management consultants McKinsey, under the aegis of personne director Margaret Salmon. As to its main purpose, you will be astonished to learn that this is to cut programme-making jobs.

Michael Winner should be-

come distraught with panic at the sight of an erect bone

RUSHING those allegations of princely infidelity with disdain. my friend Paul Johnson de-clares himself a believer in the Queen and Prince Philip's marriage in the Daily Mail. There is, he advises, absolutely nothing to worry about. How tremen donsly comforting this

is . . . and yet, some at the Palace are not reassured. 'Isn't that the berk who dismissed the possibility of a sexual revolution in 1963?" Prince Philip was beard to splutter over his breakfast yesterday. "The same bloody fool who predicted Colin Powell would become President the very day he pulled out of the race?" It is believed that the marriage is secure for the moment, but that divorce lawyers Paul write so much as another sentence of support.

NTRIGUED as to whether she is concerned that the Sarah Bradford book may have stolen her thunder, I call biographer Kitty Kelley, whose own work is expected shortly, in Washington. Her answerphone is on. It is playing God Save The Queen at can this mean?

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Act Sections

N shock news from India, the singer Samantha
Fox has been banned. The communist-led govern-ment of West Bengal has refused to allow Sam to sing at a charity function in Cal-cutta, and Indian news agencies quote a spokes-man for the Marxist CPI-M party describing our Sam's stage performances as "un-dignified". Tempting as it is to point out that there is nothing new in this harsh treatment - that in fact Sam has always had her knockers — it's a very old joke, and this isn't the place for it anyway.

HE pressures of stardom plague my friend Ann Widdecombe, from whose ruby lips BBC journalists heard her moan-ing about her boss. Michael Howard only lets her go on telly, she said, when he wants her to do his dirty work. This is unfair. Hours before he instructed her never to speak to the press again, Mrs Hilda Howard told me that her son is inca-pable of selfishness, and is indeed a wonderful son. She added that she worries terribly about his colds. So then, if only Ann showed less concern for her image and more for the contents of Michael's Kleenex, her working relationship would be greatly improved

PREVIOUSLY unheard-of loyalist group has emerged in Ulster, according to the Evening Herald. The group claimed responsibility last week for beating a young County Down man with baseball bats. It calls itself "Loyalists against thuggery".



Synchronised swims be is describing — already speaks for an election campaign which, while it will doubtless be personally dirty. takes no risk with the pain of social and economic reality. AM enchanted by the emergence as a public flower of Flo in murky grey water

Commentary

Hugo Young

HE ELECTION campaign has begun with the politics of painless solutions. The first battle is for the ownership of unchallenging words. It is being conducted in language that's far from anaesthetic, set in a future which is made to sound full of the most apocalyptic menace. Gallup tells us that the voters are preparing for a dirty election, which they say they abominate. But we're on notice to prepare for something else: an election in which the discrepancy be-tween words and action, beween the terminal passion of the one and utter imprecision of the other, is hopelessly ewildering.

This confusion is not banished by the willingness of the two main participants to show us what they're doing. At present the words are 'one-nation" and "stake-holding". But the contest is, by design, vacuous. The entire men aren't children. What point of the deployment of struck some of them, having to sound messianically conthese words is that they read the Blair speech, was vinced by the sumptuous void

should be as inclusive and therefore as empty as possible. Nothing new in that, you ered as easily by Mr Major. may say. What is newer is the candid performance of the protagonists. They've already pulled aside the curtain to let us see, unusually, the stage machinery. Both John Major and Tony Blair are dealing in parodies, of each other and themselves, as they hardly trouble to conceal.

Blair's reference to stake holding wasn't so much its content as the tactical oppor tunity it presented: not the policy itself but the amazing fact, at which the Prime Min-ister could be seen salivating on nationwide television, that his opponent had made his first "fundamental political error", by announcing a policy that dared put clear water between Labour and the Tories. Major the tactician was entranced. For the first time in months, uncontrolla-He was talking, it must be said, to an audience of business people, whose faltering support threatens the Tory party with bankruptcy. No doubt he felt the need to ex-plain to them that Blair, in

Singapore, had shown his

colours as a man no capitalist

This is also, I understand, what privately struck Mr Major as well. If words have meaning, the water between them, on everything to do with the economy and quite a lot to do with social reform, is of murkiest grey. They sail the same ocean in convoy, their compasses quite simi-larly set. As a fusion between Mr Major was first into the field. What excited him about the stake-holding, which is Blair's word, and the onenation, which is Major's, the Singapore speech could not be

improved on. But then Blair showed an equal willingness, the very mirror of the Prime Minister's, to de-mystify his own game. Yes, he told David Frost on Sunday, stake-holder could be called a "slogan". He didn't mind that. And actually, as now expressed, that is what it is. This can be seen as more proof of Blair's disarming honesty. He openly ad-mits that stake-holding is not his big idea but his buzz word, his unifying theme, the catchy feel-good number — a little more sharp-edged than "community". a little less socialistically offensive than "shareholder" — with which he hopes to ensuare the collective brain of Britain. But the absence of any content —

social and economic reality.
Stake-holding, it is true,
may still be an embryonic
concept. Perhaps, in the wellordered tradition of the Labour Party, there are policy-groups merely awaiting the signal to come forward with precise plans that give body and meaning to the stake-bolder of the future. First, perhaps, comes the word, and then, when it has sunk into the language, come the specifics. Mr Blair is noth-ing if not a superb and calcu-lating propagandist. Mean-while, however, he is careful to insist that the word says nothing that's not been said before: promises no new law, envisages no shift in forms of ownership, contemplates no pain for a single identifiable But unless it does, the limits

Stake-holding is not Blair's big idea but his buzz word, his unifying theme, the catchy

feel-good number

of "stake-holding" will be borizons it promises to open

course, familiar tools of politicians when the election machine starts cranking into action. But this time, I think, they have started sooner, carrying heavier moment, than they have done before. Al-ready the whole of politics, day and night, is taken up with them. Already Mr Hesel-

proportion of his viewers will understand for what it is: gar-bage. Mr Lilley, likewise,

shouts into the microphone to explain that when Lady Thatcher ridiculed one nationism last week, she nel-ther said nor intended to say a single thing to de-stabilise the Prime Minister. Truly there is no limit to the traves there is no firmt to the traves-ties a desperate party will shamelessly deploy in order to keep control of language which, whatever Mr Major would like to think, most people know it has betrayed. This betrayal, I suppose, is what gives Mr Blair the confi-dence that he and not his

dence that he and not his enemy is now the true owner of these feel-good words. Talk-ing of the one-nation Labour Party is rather less incredible than propelling the Tory, still ess the Thatcherite, stakeholder to centre stage. But also no more meaningful.

In the quest for substance over appearance, Labour should accept that it needs to meet the greater challenge. It talks a lot about the Tory crisis, and the collapse of the Tory era. But it is reluctant to address this dramatic designation with promises of equivalent solemnity. Its own language is less strenuous than the philosophy it purports to be overturning. It is not yet saying anything that is objectionable, save to constitutional transfer of the property of the proper stitutional cranks in Scot-

roposes to stress the impor-

among the values which he wants to lay before children. Since it seems that most children do not want their

parents to part, quite likely

they will agree with him. But

there is not a great deal that they can do about it, and when they themselves grow up their own situation may be become any assist.

not become any easier. Dr

Tate does not, of course, see this increased mobility of life

as being the cause of a moral

decline that worries him. His own preferred explanation is

simply political correctness among teachers. He sees a kind of confused relativism

which makes them think it

"judgmental" to say that any-

thing is actually wrong: a "morass of moral relativism"

he puts down partly to "our wish to make up for past

injustices against racial, reli-

is indeed very common in the modern world, and the only

thing to be said for it is that it

We now live in a world that constantly presents us with strange customs and strange

Moral points that

need to be made

to children are not,

speaking, obscure

cultures. We have to form udgments about them in a

way that our ancestors scarcely ever had to, so tradi-tion is often little help to us.

All-round knee-jerk tolerance is certainly not an adequate response to this situation, but

all-round knee-jerk intoler-ance is a good deal worse.

The problem that faces

teachers, and anyone else

who has to talk to people with backgrounds unlike their own, is that of coming near enough to their hearer's posi-tion to be understandable.

generally

ious or other minorities", [

land. Yet a party isn't worth leading unless it does things that some people will detest. Politics is the art of making the right enemies. Stake-holding either does that, or it's marrier to earthe break to a control of the control merely a gentle breeze to smooth the murky ocean. It's

the fairest?



OWARDS the end of her Panorama confessions, Princess Diana was give the interview. After all, she had just described her treatment by the press as "abusive" and "harassment". Why volunteer for more? Pure public-spiritedness. People doubted her, the Princess explained. She wanted to reassure "the man on the street, yup, because that's what matters more than anything else". More than the dignity and privacy of her

children anyway; that much was clear. Her feelings were relayed to over 22 million people. Last week, Dr Klaus Wagner, a man who likes to stand in the street outside the Chelsea Harbour Club, was banned from SW6. Although most of us generally give this Sloane-infested hell-hole the widest possible of berths, for Wagner his exile is punishment indeed. According to his plac-ard, he urgently needs the Princess to notice him: "You've got the power, use it!" Perhaps an alert policeman spotted that Wagner's injunction is uncomfortably similar to a phrase in The Silence Of The Lambs. In Thomas Harris's novel Senator Martin uses the media in

an attempt to speak directly to the lunatic who has abducted her daughter: "You have the power," she flatters Wagner's own, sinister behaviour illustrates the justice of the rest of his message: 'Please take some advice on: your image problem. How to tackle the press." Diana's ap-proach to publicity has al-

ways been capricious, but recently her relations with the media and through them, with her public, have become a wretched, one-woman circus. She retires from public life, then demands a come-back. She admits to assisting Andrew Morton, but deplores and partly to the decline in Jonathan Dimbleby. She begs religious faith.

This is not a stupid point, but it is largely irrelevant to the teaching problem. Confused relativism of this kind correspondent. One day she is

fined the extremes of report-ing on Princess Diana. Now she is said to be considering injunctions against the photographers who share her demanding round of exercise, counselling and holidays. How do we know? Because the news has somehow arrived at the Sunday Tele-graph. As usual, Diana's timing is perfect. Her protests come in the wake of sympahas her own tormentor, and for Susie Orbach, besieged in Belsize Park. Better still, the Times is recycling some stale gossip about Prince Philip. AN Wilson has already posed the inevitable question —
"whether the time has not come to bring in a privacy law".

For austere Anne, and grumpy Philip, one must feel some sympathy. Neither has offered up their souls for dabbling, or affected intimacy with the man on the street But time has shown Princess Diana to be one of those many celebrities with a compulsive desire for self-amplification which must then be disguised as victimbood. Few of us are entirely free of the Pooterish desire for recognition; most will remember the childish thrill of seeing our name in print. Local newspapers de-pend upon this harmless need for validation: moreover, without exhibitionists there would be no Blind Date, no My Kind Of People — no fly-on-the-wall documentaries about students, soldiers, or the Royal Opera House.

MATEURS and minor celebrities can be hon-est enough about their craving for exposure. After a libel action against the People brought Mona Bauwens a degree of notoriety, she could not — would not — return to obscurity. "It's very difficult, if you've had your two seconds of glory, not to want a little bit more.

Such honesty is rare among our more prominent show-offs. Hugh Grant, once so open to enquiries, and so free with saucy ripostes, now un-kindly describes "the sound of knuckles scraping as the British press left my flat and beaded for Hampstead". The journalists were in pursuit of Emma Thompson, who gra-ciously undresses and emotes for Vanity Fair, but tells the Mail on Sunday that press her husband's excursion with | intrusion is "very bad man ners... I'm affronted by it, and I won't countenance it any more". Let's wait until her next film, eh?

Would such skilled practi-tioners benefit from a privacy snapped weeping piteously in law? The current situation the streets; the following may be grotesquely contradictory, but it allows its willing is less destructive than the rays at the homeless — and victims the pleasure of reluctions to the television studios bellowing people to be the only alternative to it.

The press is "dabbling in the they want is not a privacy whether the press is "dabbling in the they want is not a privacy want is not want is not a privacy want is not a pri next it is never clear whether the press is "dabbling in the stuff of people's souls" or if the Princess is "invading her own privacy" — as Lord McGregor has so neatly de-



ILLUSTRATION; GEOFF GRANDFIELD

Rights and wrongs

Mary Midgley argues that the Government's proposed 'framework' of morals to be taught in schools is fine as far as frameworks go. But will the children listen? Or understand?

When these victims are in charge of education in a Conservative government, or adservative government, or advising those who are, their hymns tend to concern the incantations from ministers distressing fact that school-teachers have not yet man-an extraordinary confidence teachers have not yet managed to inject traditional morality into their pupils. John on children. Both these pun-Patten complained about this dits remark sadly that child-

ognitive dissonance — which is the painful state induced by holding two opinions that clash — is notorious for the country of the covernment's School Curriculum not usually making its vic- ment's School Curriculum tims rethink those opinions, and Assessment Authority, Instead, it commonly sets them singing loud hymns in bond-forming rituals which help them to forget their little work of agreement on the en-

be. But will it help? These in the effect of moralistic talk

tury, children mostly lived in much more static communities. They tended to pass their lives among a single set of people, people whom they knew and whose opinion was important to them. They had customs to guide them. This more static — sometimes stagnant — way of life was certainly not a utopia. It encouraged its own sort of vices. some of them very serious. But it did indeed in general produce greater order, and conduct was possible.

The reason this traditional order has been eroded is not get jobs than men do and are morally feeble. The economic reshaping of the world has simply carried away traditional structures on its tide. Our lives today have become mobile and — in the current buzzword — flexible in a world lists stress) come very oddly in the current buzzword — flexible in a world lists stress) come very oddly in the current buzzword — flexible in a world lists stress) come very oddly in the current buzzword — flexible in a world lists stress) come very oddly in the current buzzword — flexible in a world has a come extremely difficult. Accordingly, demands for a return to "family life can become extremely difficult. Accordingly, demands for a return to "family life can become extremely difficult. Accordingly, demands for a return to "family life can become extremely difficult. Accordingly, demands for a return to "family values". that individuals have become failure three years ago when ren behaved in a more or he was Secretary of State for derly way in the past; and that no previous generation's leducation. He demanded both seem to think that it was ever were. Of course, this

the reciting of moral maxims that produced this order.

But the fact that teachers could recite these maxims with conviction was a conservation was a conservation was a conservation where the conjugate of the present Government. It is the tongue of an alien race. Approval and disapproval only come home to people that no doubt nobody ever exactly intended. But Conservation the moral points that need to the moral points that has come about, as large changes often do, in a way that no doubt nobody ever exactly intended. But Conservative thought, in its current, libertarian phase, most emphatically approves of finis fiexibility and demands it of us. It sees "labour" as a liquid commodity, expected to flow anywhere; and it praises character traits, such as embryrise, which are supposed to make it do so.

Approval and disapproval only come home to people when those who express them appear to some extent to be field whuman beings. Again, the moral points that need to be made to children are not, generally speaking, obscure marginal ones that differ with cultures and raise problems about relativism. They are central ones involving the Golden Rule, the notion that "You don't do to others what All this naturally means that, where jobs are scarce,

one spouse or other in a family may have to move else-where. Or when a particular industry collapses, people may have to move to places firmer limitations on what where they cannot have their children with them. Again, when women find it easier to expected to work "flexible

mon to all the cultures that are likely to be involved. But this notion does have to be put in language that is not alien to the children. If Dr Tate sets up a committee - which would probably not contain any children — to agree on some set of universal values for schools, if does not seem very likely that the language they use will pass this test. Dr Mary Midgley is a retired

"You don't do to others what you would not want done to

you". A rule which is com-

Senior Lecturer in Philosophy at Newcastle University, and author of Wickedness (Routledge) and Can't We Make Moral

UNDERSTANDING THINKER?

LOVER [] PATCH SHAKE [] EXACT ALONE [] SHONE SANDS I I PLACE GRASS [] BOAST [/] CRASH [] FRAME-WALLS [] LANDS SHOUT [] ADORN SWAMP [] SMILE

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A Maigret in the archives

rance as a young emerged both as French and English. And as a remarkable historian. He once said that, for him, France fell into two different periods, with a gap in the middle: 1935 to 1939 and 1944 to 1958. It was 1935 when he first went to Paris, but he believed that it was significant because it was about then that there ended French insouciance, before the Republic became sombre and scared. From 1939 to 1944 he was absent from France. And 1958 is chosen, not so much for the installation of the Fifth Republic, as by his sense that it was this year which was the symbol of the which made the country unrecognisable to him (although he continued to go there). Gallo-destructomaniacs, he

claimed, had removed many of the most evocative sights of Paris and had installed drabness and an all embracing ugliness (and he used frequently to instance "the appalling Tour Maine-Montparnasse"). But more than this, he la-mented the disappearance of the belote players and the blue smocks of the peasants, he resented the population that was fed by a super-marché and looked after by anonymous pharmacists with technocrat's glasses, who sold the anonymous products of distant industries. The historian of Paris And Its Provinces 1792-1802 (1975) was saddened when he learned that Paris and Brussels were to be linked by a motorway. No longer would the route be fre-

Brussels and Lille, such as he | them like peacock's tails". had written about.

Inevitably, "le Cobb" began for me in the Archives Nationales. It was in the late 1940s, and I noticed a fairhaired young man joking with the assistant who brought us our documents. was envious of this friendliness since I had at the time (mistakenly) formed the opinon that Huguon, the assistant, was my personal enemy. At the end of the day I left in the company of some French historians and one of them suggested that we should wait for "le Cobb". In

Hours among documents laid the foundation for a great work on the French Revolution

this way I was introduced to my compatriot who spoke and who knew the archives of Paris and the départements better than anyone else.

From then on I followed his work and what the Sorbonne professor Marcel Rheinhardt once described as "the inumerable children of Monsieur Cobb", articles published in regional reviews, in the mem-oirs of learned societies, in the reports of obscure academic organisations. All were sustained by a prodigious ar-

ICHARD COBB, bigamists, young officers and Cobb himself put it, "foot-who has died aged resourceful young men from notes trailing out the end of

This passion for documents could create difficulties; on one occasion, working in a rich collection, he found that he had been forgotien, the staff had disappeared and he was locked in. Climbing through a window he rested his foot on the capital "D" of the lettering that emblazened the building. It fell to the ground and Richard with it. He was not hurt, but for years afterwards the establishment enjoyed the designation "Archives épartementales. It was the mark of "le Cobb".

could also create surprises. In 1954 he attacked me violently because I had praised the then prime minister, Pierre Mendes France. "How can you admire a man who wants to rearm the Boches?" he shouted, bringing silence to our usual cafe, opposite the Archives. Imagine therefore my astonishment a few years later, while he was staying with me, when he spoke enthusiastically about Mendes. The explanation was that he had met him, and that Mendes France had told him about the role he had played in assem-bling the archives communales at Louviers and in creating the model archives of Evreux There was no quicker way to

Affection for documents

The hours spent among doc-uments laid the foundation for a great creative work on the French Revolution. To begin with there were the large volumes on the revolu-tionary armies (translated as The People's Armies in 1987). Here Cobb unveiled a new subject: he demonstrated a



Richard Cobb . . . a quest to uncover history's forgotten men and women

successive generations of historians to abandon the idea that French history should be studied from Paris, and be displayed a new vision as he looked at the role played by individuals, by the non-com-missioned officers of the An-cien Regime, by the Irregulars, and by those who feared food shortages, conspiracies and betrayals. This was the vision that he went on to cul-tivate in a series of books. long essays, in which he bought obscure groups into

explain how people saw murdered some half dozen events rather than to recount people at random when he the events themselves, in was working as a guide in the events rather than to recount the events themselves, in which he speculated about mental horizons rather than about political principles and

The revolution was a game that was being played by history's forgotten men and women; it was a theatre where society's marginals jos-tled each other. When Cobb wrote about the great Paris Exposition of 1937, it was not architecture that interested him, but the activities of

German pavilion. When Cobb turned to autobiography, whether in books or in essays, many of the people he wrote about were extraordinary. The cat burglar he met in Dublin, the Black Widow - that Gothic figure of fathomless was who dominated

the common at Tunbridge Wells where he grew up, the at Shrewsbury (and the mother whom he murdered).

real life as he watched his characters in history. It was no accident that Simenon was a favourite author. Cobb was

Commissaire Maigret.
When he was torn away from his full-time work in the Archives he became a university lecturer, at Aberystwyth and then at Leeds. He showed himself to be a successful teacher, learned, witty, pa-tient and friendly. But it was above all at Oxford, as a Felsor of Modern History, that he won the affection and the

dents, and many distinguished historians today are proud to have been his pupil proud to have been his pupul.
Georges Lefebvre, his master in Paris, had told him that historians should not marry. But, for once, Cobb vigorously contradicted him. Marrying Margaret in 1963, he wrote movingly of how he had found serenity in his family, as all who knew them can testify. who knew them can testify.

Richard Charles Cobb, historian,

King Moshoeshoe II of Lesotho

Heavy crown to wear

the age of 57 deprives Africa of a modern-minded monarch who wished to contribute more than was required of him by the counrhat eccentric with lefthim always to examine the role of the underdog, his untimely death comes just a year after his reinstatement as king when he might have contrib-uted a good deal to the healing process that Lesotho needs after many years of turbu-

Born as Constantine Bereng Seeiso, he was the eldest son of the Paramount Chief of the majority Basotho people. He was educated at Mokhotlong primary school and then at Roma College outside the capi tal, Maseru. He was brought up a Catholic and in 1954, aged 16, he was sent to Ampleforth. He remained in England going on to Corpus Christi College Oxford, to read PPE. However, before he could take his degree, he was called home to prepare for his coronation which took place on March 12.

He had already attended the 1958 constitutional conference in London, held to discuss the proposed independence of what was still the British protectorate of Basutoland, and as king he attended another with observer status in 1964. At the third conference held in June 1966 shortly before in-dependence. Moshoeshoe ex-pressed doubts at the speed with which Lesotho was being moved towards independence. He was afraid that South, Africa would bring an overwhelming influence on his two months it was announced tiny landlocked kingdom. He that Moshoeshoe was going

able to defend [its] proper in-terests against foreign interference." And he refused to sign the conference report because the new constitution envisaged a purely constituponsibility for foreign affairs or defence

From independence granted on October 4, 1966 to the end of apartheid in South Africa, Lesotho was always exceptionally vulnerable to pressures from its giant neighbour, a factor which coloured every aspect of the country's politics and economic life. Even before independence

the king was in conflict with Chief Leabua Jonathan, the leader of the Basutoland National Party (BNP) who was about to become prime minis-ter of independent Lesotho. Chief Jonathan challenged the king either to forego his political activities or to abdicate in favour of his wife Queen Mamohato. The King proposed a referendum on his constitu-tional position. The two men's differences were patched up briefly, but by December 1966 rioting led Chief Jonathan to place Moshoeshoe under house arrest and accuse him of being in league with the opposition Congress Party of Ntsu Mokhehie. On January 5, 1967 the King signed a document binding him to a constitutional role.

However in 1970 when Jonathan had suspended the constitution, the King addressed an election meeting and urged support for the Congress Party. He was again placed under house arrest. Within

ME DEATH of King warned against achieving in into indefinite exile and his Moshoeshoe II of Leso dependence "as a divided the in a car accident at the age of 57 deprives of a modern minded able to defend littel proper in the conditions of the con returned to Lesotho by the end of the year. He had once again signed a document banning him from political activities. It marked the beginning of Chief Jonathan's personal rule, a time when the country repeatedly fell foul of South Africa.

In January 1986 Jonathan was ousted in a coup by Major General Justin Lekhanya and another troubled period for Lesotho ensued. Early in 1990 a power struggle developed be-tween Lekhanya and King Mo-shoeshoe. The King's executive powers were suspended and Moshoeshoe went into his second period of exile, this time to England However after seven months he was invited to return.

S A CONDITION of his return he insisted that military rule was lifted and an interim government formed in preparation for elections. In response, Lekhanya deposed the King and the country's 22 principal chiefs elected Prince Bereng Seeiso, the King's eldest son, to the throne. As King Letsi III he promised, like his father to keep out of

In April 1992 the exiled King announced his intention to return to Lesotho. With the na, then head of the Military Council, Moshoeshoe returned to Lesotho in July.

Arguments about the future of the monarchy led King Letsi III to declare in March 1993 that he was willing to step down in favour of his deposed father. The elections of that month resulted in a land-



slide victory for the Congress Party (BCP) of Ntsu Mokhehie which took all 65 seats in the Assembly. De-posed King Moshoeshoe continued to maintain his right to return to the throne. In August 1994 in what

amounted to a royal coup King Letsi III dissolved the government of Ntsu Mokhehle and parliament and then suspended part of the constitution. Opponents of the King demanded Lesotho become a republic and petitioned the King to abdicate; under international pressure King Letsi III agreed on September 14 to restore the government of Mokhehle. Letsi then carried but his earlier promise to step down in favour of his father and King Moshoeshoe was formally restored to the throne on January 25, 1995 while Letsi reverted to his former role as Crown Prince.

Addressing a crowd of 10,000 at a ceremony to mark the ocasion of his restoration King Moshoeshoe promised reconciliation and peace. This thoughtful and persuasive man arguably had a great deal more to contribute to his country than the politician and generals who ran it

Constantine Bereng Seesso, King Moshoeshoe II of Lesotho, born May 2, 1938; died January

Red Thunder Cloud

Legacy of language

Red Thunder Cloud, a singer and storyteller whose commitment to olayed an important part in the widespread spiritual revival among American In-

known speaker of the Catawba American Indian lan-guage. Red Thunder Cloud was also a confusing figure to many American Indians. He was not born a member of the tribe whose culture he uniquely recorded. He played no part in the political radicalism which swept through American Indians in the 1970s, although his commitment to the culture had elped make that political

awareness grow. He was also a kind of capitalist in a very small way, selling his own brand of herbal teas made from plants he collected in the woods around his home. Not that he was ever accused of exploitation, nor of pandering to the white man's markets and his culture.

But for American Indians, still grappling with the results of the great process of ethnic cleansing which uprooted them, he was too com-

public relations consultant, 47; Christine Janes (nee Tru-

man), tennis player. 55; Kate tant. 74; Keith Shackleton, Moss, supermodel, 22; Prof artist and naturalist. 73;

Elaine Murphy, psycho- Susan Sontag, writer and

Birthdays

ARLOS Westez, who | plex a figure to fit the conve-became known as | nient labels of cultural na- | mother tionalist or collaborator.

Red Thunder Cloud's great contribution to American Indian culture came in the 1940s, when he took part in the oral history and linguistics programmes being mounted by the Smithsonian

Hoping to preserve some-thing of all the 500 or so different languages believed to have been spoken in North America, the MIT team recorded all that he could remember of the Catawba language. It is distantly related to the Sioux family of lan-guages, and has no written form, according to Carl Tecter, emeritus professor of lin-guistics at Harvard. Only about 100 languages are still spoken in North America.

The Smithsonian recorded a series of Catawba songs, in cluding hunting and war chants and religious songs. which enjoyed a cult succes and helped start the current fashion for Native American songs. They are still heard and requested on radio stations on the various

.....

Museum, 57; Nadine Peppard, race relations consul-

tant, 74; Keith Shackleton,

mother tongue. He was not an official member of the tribe, though he visited its reservation several times in the 1930s and 1940s, according to Foxx Ayers, a friend of Thunder

Cloud's and a member of the tribe's executive committee. The Catawba tribe is by no dians, has died of a stroke at the age of 76.

Moseum and by the Massameans extinct. Estimates of their numbers still living their numbers still living their numbers still living their numbers still living their numbers. to more than 1,000. Although the tribe is still registered as an ethnic group by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, its

largely disappeared. The tribe originally lived in South Carolina and parts of North Carolina and Virginia; its headquarters is in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Much of the film Last Of The Mohicans was filmed in the wild hills and mountain country which had been the tribe's traditional area. "I don't think he was that

fluent. But he did know the cadence of the language and he had a tremendous vocabulary," said Tom Blumer, the tribe's historian and an editor at the Library of Congress.

Martin Walker

Red Thunder Cloud (Carlos Westext, singer and storyteller, born

IBA, 75; Cliff Thorburn,

snooker player, 48; Lady Ma-

rina Vaizey, art critic, 58; Michael White, theatre and

has the chance to combine an

with, computing, with one he

is very uncomfortable with,

dudes, cyberdating is just an

advanced form of some kind

of video game, but they are

players. Their lack is your

strength . . . Many geeks extend their

work friendships into what

they jokingly refer to as RL

frustrated by a lack of

socializing. To many geek

activity he is comfortable

film producer, 60.

IUIVIIII Lams, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. WR. SCN. Derroot Needsham Furnives, M.C. on 10th January. 1996 at Salabbury District Hospital, after a long litheses, aged 71. Much lowed husband of Rense, Father of Fergus Private tandly tuners! Donations in his memory to Salabury Hospice Care Trust of I.N. Newman Ltd. Funeral Directors, Griffin House, 55 Winchester Street, Salabury, Witts. SP1 IHL. Thankagiving far Dermot's life, at a date to be announced. Births

Gavin Bryars, composer, 53: gerlatrician, vice-chairman, stage director, 63; Prof Sir Prof Tom Burns, sociologist, Mental Health Act Commis-83; Prof Roy Foster, Irish storian, 47; Lynne Franks, director, National Maritime Monifieth, former chairman,

1896, age 26. Much roves and or reservishmson and Gillian Ewert, and brother to Graham and Diame. Funeral Service on Pricky 18th of January at 3.30 pm at Reeding Crematorium Flowers and/or donations. R desired, for the "Sorn Free Foundation" maybe sent to Tomain, Funeral Directors. 35 Reading Road. Henley-on-Thames, Dann.

Engagements

MR J H Q GLENDMINING and Mins E Z McPherson. The engagement is enhoused between Grahum, son of Mr & Mrs R J Gendinning of Island Reagh, Comber, Go. Down, and Zoe, despitier of Mr & Mrs J I McPherson of Hagley, Worcestrea MTo place your armouncement telephone 0171 611 9080

and misunderstood, and it is

Jackdaw



Skin flick

IT WAS LATE at night and I was standing in a full carriage, waiting for the train to pull out when three skinheads got on. One was small and malodorous; one tall and tattooed; and one outrageously fat, like Pavarotti with alopecia. They were drinking from cans of Tennents Extra, laughing and rapping each other on the head with their knuckles, which made rather a pleasing, thunking sound, like breaking the seal on a new coffee jar. The small one sported a badge that said

Naturally everyone

averted their eyes. Shoes into, papers brought up across faces. Nothing makes you want to be invisible quite so much as drunken skinheads slapping each other's bonces and wearing

Everything was OK at first. The skinheads continued to abuse each other and discuss in the loudest and most intimate terms what they did with their girlfriends at night, but they showed no

signs of hassling anyone else. Things started to unravel at Fulham Broadway. however, when Pavarotti decided he wanted a cigarette

... Papers were pressed closer to faces, shoes stared at with mute fascination, buttocks cleuched forcefully. The man opposite me squashed his head into shoulders like a periscope. No one said: "Sorry, fatty, you can't smoke on the

Underground." The skinhead repeated his request [for a light] and then, receiving no response, walked slowly down the aisle putting his question to each | Big Issue.

commuter in turn. "Got a light you old cow?" "Hey, sooty, got a match?" ... A so on, right through the

carriage. His friends looked at him admiringly, like old soldiers do at the Queen Mother . . . No one did anything. Looks were exchanged, eyebrows raised, heads shaken, tongues clucked - but Pavarotti rampaged on unchecked. It was pathetic. I was

pathetic. No wonder yobs do yobby things when non-yobs lench their buttocks and let them get away with it. I almost admired Pavarotti's belligerence. He wouldn't have stared at his feet if he thought someone was offensive ... Pavarotti never got his light. He spent the rest of the journey huddled in a corner grumbling. devastated that he couldn't have his fag. "You bastards," he cried to no one in

particular. "I want my smoke!" Paul Sussman has a nasty brush with the underground during a tube train ride from Earl's Court. Published in the

You too CORPORATE perks are a fact

of life. The corner office. The rug on the floor. The executive dining room. Such perks can both encourage highquality work and serve as a reward for a job well done. But they can also serve as a reminder that there is a firm line dividing the corporate "haves" from the "have nots". On a business trip... Martin Belanoski, the president of Metropolitan Hardware, had a seat in first class while his sales manager, travelling on the same flight, sat in coach. As the flight progressed, Martin became more and more uncomfortable with this arrangement. He knew it was nothing personal but that didn't make it any less awkward. And he knew he would just wind up embarrassing them both if he brought it up. Their difference in status was simply a fact of corporate life.

Just before the plane

landed, he had an idea. He got

a bottle of champagne and a

bouquet of flowers from the

first-class flight attendant

gate that was meeting the plane. When his sales manager appeared, he waved wildly to him, gave him an enthusiastic "Welcome to Orlando!" and presented him with the flowers and champagne. By sharing the perks and making light of their difference in status, he was able to cut through the discomfort instantly. The two of them shared an upbeat taxi ride to the hotel, and later that eve-

pagne as well. And they all lived happily ever after . . From Share The Perks, activity 51 in Matt Weinstein's upbeat management book Managing To Have Fun, published by Simon & Schuster. From Harper's.

ning they shared the cham-

Real geeks

WHILE THEY are often into alternative music, geek dudes tend not to go to shows too often. Instead you'll find them hanging out with their friends, discussing the latest hardware revolution or perfecting their Bill Gates impressions. You know how

some people wear T-shirts with their favorite bands on them, thus showing that they went to certain shows? Well, geek dudes wear T-shirts with the logos of different software companies on them thus showing that they are up on the latest, um, releases... Of course the best way to meet a geek dude is through the Internet. All geeks harbor a secret fantasy about meeting some girl in cyberspace, carrying on an e-



(Real Life, also known as "that big room with the ceiling that is sometimes blue and sometimes black with little lights"). The greatest

thing about your geek's buddies is that you can feel secure in setting them up with your girlfriends. They may feel awkward around females at first, so don't overwhelm them. In time they will come out of their

shell and realise that you are into the same things they are ... Because they have been so society. many geeks have gone underground. You may actually know some and just They often feel resentful.

important to realise this as you grow closer to them. Don't ever try to force the demands that he choose between his computer and you. Remember, his computer has been there for him his whole life; you are a new interloper he hasn't quite grasped yet. Advice for geeks and geekgirls from the Bunnyhop Internet site (http://www.slipnet/them). In his recently published book, Geek extraordinaire Bill Gates tells how he cyberdated a female cybercadet. They would go to the same movies in different cities at the same time, and then, immediately afterwards, discuss the film using e-mail. There's nothing like the warm glow of

Jackdaw wants your jewels. Email jackdaw@guardianco.uk.; fax 0171-713 4366; write Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London

Dan Glaister

OCCO oo la

de manage

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610 Fax: 0171-833-4456

Finance Guardian

Housing recovery 'mirage' Lots of stakes

ernment of "wishful think ing" about prospects for an upturn and the building industry warned of 20,000 immi-

in a report on the November Budget, the powerful all-party Treasury select committee said the Budget forecast of a "modest recovery" in the property market this year was unlikely to be realised. The MPs said the Treasury had failed to recognise a structural change in attitudes to home-ownership. which was holding activity

and prices down. "If is essential the Treasury should present a carefully considered, accurate and coherent 'central forecast', not one based on wishful thinking that glosses over major areas of concern," the report states.

The Building Employers pressing" start to the new pressing start to the new gloom, unveiling a survey of 600 construction firms, show-the per borrowing and more sign was a tentative pick-up than a mirage."

Tory recovery is little more said: "The increase in negative equity was a result of the housing market's disappoint than a mirage."

Lenders blamed the lack of demand on the failure of imperformance." He added recovery in the housing market housing market were dealt a twin blow yesterday "I strongly urge the Government to take these actions so that workload and employshedding this year. ment prospects can improve and the construction industry

Weaker activity could translate into 20,000 job cuts, added to the 500,000 axed since the beginning of the recession in 1989.

Paul Shepherd, chairman of the Federation, said the findings were an "extremely de- enquiries about new orders,

tax rises but

shows signs

reshuffle as little more than a

titular change, while a host of City institutions said it was "too little, too late".

Forte shares closed down 3p

at 366p last night, while Gra-nada's shares were up 7p at

670p, valuing Granada's casb-

and-paper offer at 381p — in-dicating that the City now ex-

Sir Anthony — respected for his work at Guinness

bid for Distillers - becomes

Sir Rocco acknowledged

that pressure from the City

decision: "I have been influ-

enced by the opinion ex-

pressed to me by a number of our shareholders that they do

not believe it is appropriate,

for a major listed company such as Forte, for the same

individual to hold both posi-tions. I accept this view." Sir Anthony, describing

recent "personal attacks" ou Sir Rocco by Granada as "dis-

move "smacked of despera-tion".

Granada's catering subsidiary, Sutcliffe, yesterday unveiled an exclusive tie-up

chairman on February 1.

pects Granada to win.

underlying

inflation

of easing

The battle for Forte

Rocco split

'too late'

IR Rocco Forte yester-

day bowed to pressure

from institutional shareholders by split-ting his job of chairman and

chief executive, and naming his deputy, Sir Anthony Ten-

Sir Rocco said the decision

timely", given his company's

plans to focus on its botels

business in the wake of Granada's £3.8 billion hostile

Gerry Robinson, Granada's

chief executive, dismissed the

costs are

UDGET increases in taxes on tobacco, petrol and alcohol have pushed up Factory gate prices of goods leaving the factory gate, according to pushed up by

cheaper borrowing and more capital spending.

can begin to climb out of this

necession."
Mr Shepherd was particularly concerned by a continu-

ing decline in the volume of

qib-elduob

damaging

govornment figures released yesterday, writes Richard Thomas. Manufacturers' output prices Jumped by 0.8 per cent in December, the Central Statistical Office said — but 0.7 points of that rise were explained by the tax rises. Stripping out food, drinks, cigarettes and fuel,

underlying figures indi-cated an easing of inflation-ary pressures in the supply chain, which shortened the odds on another cut in in-Adam Cole, an economist

at James Capel, said: "If the strong rebound in retail sales fails to materialise, a further 0.25 per cent reduc-tion in base rates later this week cannot be ruled out."

in the commercial property

sector, he said, but residential

demand remained flat.

Labour seized on the sur-

vey to berate the Government

for failing to recognise the im-

pact of the housing market on

crucial indicator of economic health," said Labour housing

spokesman Michael Meacher.
"Once again, we see that the

the monthly increase was

0.2 per cent. City analysts said the

The building industry is a

the wider economy.

England, meet tomorrow. Most commentators expect that, after last month's quarter-point cut to 6.5 per cent, Mr Clarke will wait for key data on unemploy-ment and retail prices be-

house values to pick up, forc-

ing more families into nega-tive equity. According to fig-ures released yesterday by the Woolwich building soci-

ety, the number of households with homes worth less than

their mortgages unexpectedly

tober and December of last

year, to reach 1.16 million.

jumped by

40,000 between Oc-

fore loosening policy again. The City was pleased by signs from the CSO data that global commodity

less over the Christmas unve of the Woolwich group, | period than in previous years. Chancellor Kenneth seasonally adjusted 0.4 per Clarke and Eddie George, cent and the annual rise Governor of the Bank of slipped from 6.1 per cent to cent and the annual rise slipped from 6.1 per cent to 5.8 per cent — the lowest level since August 1994.

that negative equity was spreading out from the South

of the country to the Mid-lands and the North.

But the Royal Institution of

Chartered Surveyors holds

out some hope for a pick-up in activity. A survey of RICS members working as estate

agents, published yesterday

showed that activity slowed

A slowdown in the pace of raw material price rises helped to explain the rosy outlook, the CSO said. The annual rise in factory gate prices was un-

changed between Novem-ber and December at 4.3 per cent. Underlying annual inflation fell from price pressure was easing. annual inflation fell from input prices increased by a 4.6 per cent to 4.3 per cent.

but few holders



Edited by Alex Brummer

THE role of the institu-tions, and Mercury Asset Management in particu-lar, looks unhelpful in the Granada battle for Forte.
MAM and its leading lights,
Carol Galley and Stephen
Zimmerman, appear so fixated on making quick bucks
for their livestors that they
have left other stateholders. have left other stakeholders — to use the fashionable term

As was the case last year, when there was a genuine in-dependent shareholders revolt at British Gas, the institu-tions, with voting power exercised in the manner of the large trade unions in an earlier era, are rolling over the democratic rights of everyone else in serious boardroom de cisions. A small, unelected clique holds sway over large parts of corporate Britain.

By taking strategic stakes of 14.5 per cent in Granada and 15 per cent in Forte, MAM no doubt thinks it has been clever. It has been able to use its pin-up manager, Gerry Robinson, to undermine the efforts by Forte to re-group around the concept of a first class British-owned and based hotels group. Such an outcome, now that

the management structure by stepping down as chairman in favour of Sir Anthony Tennant, would have plain advantages. As most analysts now agree, the financial benefits from the bid are fairly evenly share buyback and Granada's special share distribution (of special tax advantage to a favoured faw institutions).

core functions — not part of a disparate leisure group that believes the way to long-term success is a firesale of pre-mium brands such as Meridien, sweating-assets, and

raising prices.
In exercising their votes the big battalions ought to have some regard to other stakeholders. For a start there are the 700,000 Forte small sharetholders who, among other things, anjoy special privi-leges, such as a 12.5 per cent discount.

There are also the employ-

ees: the hotel/catering industry is renowned for its low pay and poor treatment of employees. Granada has shown itself in the past to be a slash

and burn employer where training and quality are not highly regarded.

Then there is the customer interest. Mr Robinson has made no secret of the fact that he thinks that higher prices, like those currently charged at Granada's sub-quality mo-torway service stations, will improve the Forte performance under its ownership.

Maybe it will in the shortterm. But, as UK retailing has ing the company to its knees.

margins encourages the growth of discount competitors. It also does nothing to breed customer or client loyalty in consumer markets. If MAM were a more res-ponsible investor it might

found, upward pressure or

take the Warren Buffet approach, which is to invest ong-term in companies with strong brands and let the value accumulate over the decades. But its manipulations in the stock market in recent days smack of the recent short-termism that has been so destructive of British commerce.

There is a starry-eyed view in the City that what MAM does must be right, because it largest stake. But those who watched self-interest rule last year, when the fate of SG Warburg was in the bal-ance, might take a different

Gold chains

Wireless goes on and on. The company's attempt to recruit the best management team to steer it out of its current troubles has been restricted Government.

The company wanted to be able to throw out the old-fashloned requirement that its chairman and chief executive should be a British national. It felt that, as a global com-pany, it had to be able to search world-wide for the

right top management team. Then the Government emerged from the wings waving its golden share and in-sisted that one of the two had to be a Brit. Why? The Government will say only that it is in the national interest. No explanation. No comment.

What is disturbing about needed a shareholder's ques-tion to elicit the fact that the Government had blocked the company's original plan. The watered-down resolution which C & W put to its shareuncluttered, focused hotel group able to concentrate on discussions in Whitehall.

Effectively, the Government never has to use its golden share. It only has to threaten to use it to get its

if the Government is going shares in what it regards as strategic companies, it should be much more open about when and why it uses the influence this special privilege confers.
Sadly the telecom golden

shares can only be invoked in special circumstances such as association and to prevent large stakes being built up in

the company. So there is no chance of the the coming row over compensation payments to Lord Young and James Ross, who were sacked as chairman and chief executive after a long acrimonious boardroom row

Shareholders must be wondering why Lord Young, who had no contract with the company, is likely to be paid several million pounds for bring-

future losses — possibly even-

representing the insurers

who would have to pay most

of the award, argued that the

Mr de Lazio disputed this

and said Clyde & Co was "put-

tually totalling 2600 million.

Post Office rejects sell-off move Bank complaints

Simon Beavis Industrial Editor

HE Post Office yesterday sent a thinly veiled warning to John Major not to re-open the bruising de-bate over privatisation amid signs that first and second class stamp prices are soon to be increased by 1p.
New chief executive, John Roberts, made it clear that the organisation was in no mood to rise to the Prime

Minister's recent suggestion that its privatisation may be made a manifesto pledge for the next election. He said the sell-off debate main priority was to concen- manded by the Chancellor

had created turmoil in the trate on the the day-to-day over the next three years.

tion for the company

feel that it has never been the resources.

named after her, and many

same since her death on the

agement team yesterday with

over last September.

eve of flotation in 1985.

Laura Ashley board has

ceiling, says Roger Cowe

cracked management glass

AURA ASHLEY, the | Patricia Manning becomes

returning to its feminine director, and Basha Cohen.

Iverson completed her man of the month as director of de-

woman, was the inspira- director of marketing while

Post Office and was in part | running of the organisation. | behind the recent spate of industrial unrest.

"The issue for me is that
the last three years has been a "Privatisation will only be-

over the sell-off two years be-fore. The move was widely cash from the Treasury. back the political initiative in the wake of the defection of postage in the early summer.

the Liberal Democrats.

Deborah Baker will join in

March as director of human

They will join Julie Ram-

shaw, the former investment

Now the troubled frock and analyst who was recruited are still a rarity, although furnishing company is last week as merchandising there is a growing number of

roots, as chief executive Ann | who joined at the beginning | BTR and even Rolls-Royce

sign and buying.

appointments since she took | majority on the nine-person | executive.

period of uncertainty and a come a distraction if we allow period of uncertainty is not helpful." Mr Roberts said. are not going to."
PO chiefs are believed to be helpful." Mr Roberts said.

Mr Major tried to revive the
Post Office privatisation 10
days ago despite the Government's humiliating defeat
ment's humiliating defeat meet tough new demands for Rumour is it will announce

veiled an exclusive the-up with La Brioche Doree, France's second-biggest cafe and patisserie chain. Under the plan, Sutcliffe will open 100 branches across Britain.

Title bout . . . Sir Rocco, left, and Sir Anthony say reshuffle is 'appropriate and timely'

Tory MP Emma Nicholson to in a move to raise £150 milthe Liberal Democrats.

lion a year towards the the 25,000 part-time postal But Mr Roberts said his £1 billion of cash being de workers are likely to be in-

a rare crack in the "glass ceil-ing" which is said to keep

women below the highest

levels in most organisations.

While Marks & Spencer recently appointed its first fe-

male director, no large UK

company, even one as female

in its product and target audi-

ence as Laura Ashley, can boast anything approaching

sexual balance in its top

Female executive directors

Motors. Only one in seven top

companies has a female on

management.

The five women will form a the board, even as a non-

executive committee, forcing | Ms Iverson, a formidable | Americans.

stamps have remained frozen at 25p and 19p for three years. The hike is likely to be accompanied by cutbacks in capital spending and a new push for efficiency savings. Mr Roberts said that staff numbers — currently standing at 190,000 — were likely to continue falling by 1 per cent a year. But he denied that the Royal Mail was set to make huge cuts in full-time jobs and hire more part-time and caplanning to abolish second de-liveries of post. He said that

Laura Ashley, insists that she

is not striking a blow for fem-

inism. She says she has

recruited the best people for

the job and has not been con-

cerned whether they are men

One of her many appoint-

ments following a no-non-

sense clear-out of the previ-

ous top team, has been a man

-- finance director, James

The Laura Ashley boss

accused of favouring fellow Americans rather than sis-ters. Mr Walsh, Ms Manning

and Ms Cohen are all

OF TYDESON.

disgruntled bank customers, received 18,142 complaints last year compared with 15,079 in 1994. Some 92 per cent were business-oriented. creased by 1,500 over the next Woman's world in frocks and furnishings American who once headed Mothercare and was tempted back from the US to rescue

from 24 per cent last year. "There are strides being made by some banks, while others are standing still," Mr Weatherill said. "There's the independent Banking Advisory Service.

IBAS, one of a handful of organisations offering help to

"Meanwhile, we've found particular problems with Bar-clays, which seems to be more interested in procrastinating when a business customer is going down than giving a swift answer." A spokesperson for Bar-clays said: "Our latest survey of tens of thousands of our

business customers found that 90 per cent were 'satis-fied' or 'more than satisfied'." Stuart Cliffe of the Association of Bank Customers said the ABC had also experienced a spiralling number of complaints over the past year. "We think it's simply that

bank customers have become more aware of their right to plaints league with 27 per complain," he said.

	Number of complaints	% of complaints		
	received by MAS	1995	1994	
Barclays	4898	27.0	24.0	
NatWest	4627	25.5	24.5	
Lloyds	3901	21.5	21.5	
RBS	1904	10,5	11.5	
Midland	1088	6.0	7.5	
TSB	454	2.5	4.0	
Yorkshire	272	1.5	2.0	
Со-ор	182	1.0	1.0	
Others	216	45	4.0	

First and second class rise 20pc in 1995 cent of those lodged with IBAS directed against it, up

Jill Papworth

OMPLAINTS about Britain's high street banks leapt by a fifth in 1995, according to a report by

The largest number of com-plaints (22 per cent) were about alleged dishonesty, incompetence and negligence on the part of the banks. Others included disputes over personal guarantees (18 per cent), intimidation (17 per cent), withdrawal of support (15 per cent) and excessive fees and charges (15 per cent). The IBAS chief executive, Eddy Weatherill, said some hanks were better at customer relations than others.

Barclays tops the com-

The unhappy customers

Feltrim Names are awarded £175m in Lloyd's damages granted full indemnity for

ORE than 1,600 Names who sued over their huge losses in the Lloyd's of were yesterday awarded around £175 million damages.

The Names all invested on were likely to receive a maxisyndicates run by the Feltrim | mum of £130 million, much agency from 1987 to 1989. The less than the £237 million of-

losses were due to a series of fered two years ago by Lloyd's catastrophes, including Hurin its failed out-of-court offer. ricane Hugo and the Piper Alpha oil disaster. Damon de Lazlo, chairman ting a brave face" on the afof the Feltrim action group, fair. He said the litigation hailed the high court award | could allow the Feltrim inves-

against their agents at tors to claim more than £200 Lloyd's, made by Mr Justice | million from Lloyd's out of its Longmore, as a victory and | £2.8 billion compensation pot predicted they would receive around £150 million.

said the Names would be poned their court case.

To claim any money from Lloyd's, the Names would

The discrepancy would have to waive any rights to occur because not all of the the court award. Investors award would trigger insur-from the Wellington Names ance payments. Mr de Lazlo Association last week post-

URIST RATES	— BANK SELLS		
ustralia 2.01 ustria 15.20 elgium 44.40 anada 2.05 prus 0.6950 enmark 8.40	France 7.38 Germany 2.1700 Greece 363.00 Hong Kong 11.74 India 55.27 Ireland 0.9500	italy 2,380 Maita 0.5425 Netherlands 2,4400 New Zealand 2,29 Norway 9,57 Portugal 227,00	Singapore 2.15 South Africa 5.44 Spain 181.00 Sweden 10.05 Switzerland 1.74 Turkey 88.055



Death Notices

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14 Total T. Mark P. V. S.

Engigements

STATE OF THE PARTY March Street

Exchange. April 10 A $\frac{e^{-\frac{1}{4}}+\sqrt{e}}{2}$ A 25.45

4.8



The first production linst mass-produced car built was a Benz car, cost \$500. By The first production family car such as a car built in the UK was a Ford Mondeo costs Lanchester, made about £13,000.

enoir in 1862. • A Model T Ford, the Velo in 1894. contrast a typical

Car era

runs out

Daimler in the cathedral and politicians in

HILE anti-road that improvements in public transport will take 30 years to be effective.

If industrialists are con-

fused by the politicians, that is partly a result of a desire by Sir George — one of the "greenest" ministers to hold the office for years — to foster

But it is also a result of a dawning awareness in official

circles that the number of

cars cannot continue to grow at forecast rates without caus-

ing serious congestion.
The Government has cho-

sen not to use the one weapon

swiftly concentrate the pub-lic's mind. Chancellor Kenneth Clarke's Budget did

slash road building pro-

grammes, and raise the price vehicle excise duty and

However, according to

Stephen Glaister, reader in

geography at the London School of Economics, a car now costs a third of what it

did in 1960 relative to earn-

ings. Fuel and oil costs are half what they were.

Cars have also become

more reliable and are built to higher quality standards. So they last longer. SMMT statis-

tics show the number of cars

on the road has grown from 17.6 million in 1982 to 23.8 mil-

Nor, by international stan-

dards, is petrol expensive. Dr

Glaister calculated that petrol

costs 35 a gallon in Japan, \$4.50 in Norway, \$3.40 in Brit-

ain and \$3.69 on average in

western Europe. There is

plenty of scope and interna-tional justification for the

Chancellor to increase duty

Dr Glaister said: "Cars are

on petrol.

- taxation - which would

a debate about car use.

ideological jam mark a less than happy

100th birthday. Chris Barrie reports

with

clash

police and workmen over the Newbury bypass, officials at Coventry Cathedral will be fi-

natising preparations for tomorrow's service celebrating the centenary of the Brit-

ish car industry. Rehearsals are needed to

check the turning circle of the

1897 Daimler, one of the first cars to be built in Britain,

which will drive down the

aisle at the start of the service. It will be followed later

by a Peugeot 106 Electric, a

symbol of the "international-isation" — some say disap-pearance — of the British-

owned car industry. Environmentalists see little

reason to give time in a place of worship to a device that killed or injured more than

315,000 people in 1994, the last

year for which full statistics

large industry — employ-ment, wealth creation, mobil-ity — but shows some ambiv-

alence by including in the service reference to the anvi-

As if to emphasise official

unease, transport ministers will be absent from the ser-

decide whether to encourage

car use or opt for a more imaginative alternative. An

official from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and

Traders said government

transport policy "hadn't got any attitude" towards the car. Transport Secretary Sir George Young has said that

public opinion is moving in

the direction of better public

transport and less road-build-ing. People had to be aware of

the consequences of their de-cisions on travel. "We must

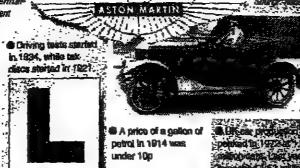
get used to asking ourselves whether an individual car journey is really necessary."

The Church points to the benefits that come with a

are avallable.

of road

Until 1878 drivers of well we beginner stew have a man walk ahead of the car with a ned flag to warn other road users of its



in 1865 for horseit was raised for light



profession of car ine was mold of rair available in the

name by 1913 there were 23.8 million.

C&W barred from seeking foreign chief

Micholas Bannister Technology Editor

HE GOVERNMENT has used its golden share in Cable and Wireless to prevent the troubled international telecoms group from looking overseas for a new top management team. Brian Smith, drafted in as

chairman last year to replace the sacked Lord Young, told a shareholders' meeting yester-day that he would have liked the freedom to appoint a nonexecutive chairman from

However, the Government had blocked the company's plan to remove the clause in its articles of association which laid down that both the chairman and chief executive must be British.

The Government was only prepared to support a watered down amendment which stated that either the chair-man or the chief executive must be British.

The issue came to a head after the board decided to appoint finance director Rod Olsen, a New Zealander, as acting chief executive until a full time replacement for James Ross was found.

The compromise amendment was approved at an extraordinary general meeting yesterday. A Department of Trade and Industry spokes-man said later that the Government had decided to insist on one of the two top execu-tives being British because it was "in the national interest". Dr Smith and Mr Olsen also

sounded the death-knell for the federation concept devel-oped by Mr Ross and backed by Lord Young.

Mark Tran in New York

HE success of the inter-

net is forcing IBM and Sears Roebuck, its part-

joint venture in Prodigy, the

online computer service.

IBM and Sears have spent

tments and focus on op- vided we can reach it."

IBM and Sears

erations in Europe, Asia and

the Caribbean.
He said the federation policy would be reduced. The federation was never a strategy, it was a culture change to get a large number of worldwide companies to act as one," he said. "If the federation adds shareholder value then it will continue; if it does not, as in most cases, it will

Both Dr Smith and Mr Ol-sen poured cold water on the prospect of a breakup of C&W, a move which has a lot of support among City institutions. Mr Smith said: "It doesn't actually make a great deal of sense as we concentrate on the growth of an international network.

Mr Smith said the shortlist for the chief executive's job had been narrowed down to about eight, some of whom were not British. He expected to be able to announce a decision in a couple of months, but warned that it might be some time before a new chief executive could take over.

He rejected a shareholder's claim that the board had been spineless in not removing the nationality restrictions alto-gether. He said that the Government had a golden share, effectively giving it the power to veto the necessary changes to the group's articles.

The Government had told the company to go "one step at a time", he said, adding: "They were not happy to agree with the total abolition of the restriction."

Shareholders afraid that Lord Young and Mr Ross might receive multi-millionpound pay-offs were told that negotiations about compensation were continuing. Mr Smith said: "I don't think you Mr Olsen, speaking after Smith said: "I don't think you the meeting, said that the group aimed to rationalise its the settlement we reach, pro-



measures were taken.

The car industry is anxious to prevent restraints on its growth. Its campaign is partly based on traditional lobbying - stressing its contribution to the economy — but compa-nies are also tackling the en-vironmental issue head-on. SMMT president George Simpson has called for gov-ernment aid in "balancing the

much more affordable. As a result people buy more of them. It is as simple as that." debate" on the environment. Mr Simpson, former head of Rover and now chief execu-As national income grows, so does car ownership. Car numbers were expected to double over the next 20 years, tive of the motor components and aerospace group Lucas, said recently that "technological actions in the pipeline will see the problem of emis-

sions in new cars eliminated in the next five years".

Although it cannot solve

estion, the industry has

he said, unless preventive | realised that it can try to take the anxiety out of motoring. Paolo Cantarella, chief executive officer of Fist, said that the company's aim was not so much to produce attractive and reliable cars as to develop financial packages and services. A car company no longer produces a product, it offers 'a complete service to keep the customer on the

move That is the type of mental-ity that the lobby group Transport 2000 wishes to challenge. Stephen Joseph, its director helieves Britons are car-dependent not by choice but because 30 years of plan-ning has made a vehicle essential for everyday life.
At some out-of-town shopping centres it was impossible

said. Similarly it is not poss-ible to build a traditional village high street today without contravening planning rules which demand space for cars, delivery vehicles and dust-

"We have designed cars into our lives and it will take another 30 years to design them out again."

Sir George's focus on the motivation of the individual — is a car journey really necessary? — is a belated recognition within government that attitudes will have to change; and that takes time. Car ownership matters less than car use. And Britons use their cars intensely. As Mr Joseph put it: "We have devel-oped Californian tastes in a country with the population density of the Netherlands."

The future will include restrictions on road use, prob ably tolls and possibly rules nental countries preventing trucks from using motorways during summer daylight

hours. There will also be more efforts to entice the motorist out of cars and on to bikes, buses or feet. But it will be years before many people readily give up the comfort of their cars for public trans-

Few people enjoy driving as much today as they might have done 30 years ago. But they enjoy the prospect of other forms of transport even less. If a commemoration service for the motor car is difficult to imagine, try one for

\$1 billion (£646 million) on Prodigy, started in 1984 with a third partner, the CBS television network. Yet Prodigy has made little money and has been overtaken in recent years by Com-

puServe and America Online the industry leader. Microsoft is also gaining rapidly. Meanwhile, more and more people are bypassing commercial online services in favour of the Internet, the global computer network.

where they can tap into huge reams of data. While computer users can get on to the internet through Prodigy and other online services, they can do so more cheaply through specialist companies

hit by Internet Sears has retained invest-ment bankers to explore selling its 50 per cent stake in Prodigy, seeking as much as \$500 million, and the compe-

ny's desire to bail out of Prodpraise its involvement.

IBM officials said the options included buying Sears's stake, finding a new pariner or getting out altogether.

Prodigy's recent lacklustre performance, dogged by poor marketing, amateurish graphics and bickering between its parents, puts IBM in a difficult position. Sticking with Prodigy could be expensive, but selling it risks helping a competitor.

Last month, AT&T approached IBM about the possibility of buying Prodigy Services. But IBM was reluctant to sell the service to what it considered a competitor, and AT&T may have lost interest.
The Sears chairman,
Arthur Martinez, said he would decide what to do with Sears's stake at the end of the quarter.

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Organisation coming months, although this

University aducation and training open to all adults

Stripy-shirts feel pinch as financial services cut to shred jobs in Maxwell jurors ill as

to walk across the site, he

OUTLOOK/Pauline Springett on why the money men should look to

taking out redundancy insurance

EAVY job losses, rising profitability and falling operating costs characterised the financial services in the next few profitability and falling profitability and falling in the next few profitable in the next few profitability and falling pr sector during the last quarter of 1995, according to the latest survey from the Confedera-tion of British Industry. The report, published yes

terday, forecast more of the same for the early months of this year, although it stressed that there were sharp differ-ences between the nine finanrial services scrutinised.

The survey said that the back end of 1995 had seen the sharpest fall in jobs in financial services for two years. Further heavy cuts were likely, fuelled by a fiercely competitive industry seeking to cut costs.

Sudhir Junankar, the CBI's associate director of economics analysis, said that bustness optimisim among firms in the financial services sector had recovered slightly since September.

This was due to a faster than expected growth in business volumes over the past three months. "We expect to see a further pick-up in business in business volumes over the

financial services companies

continue to regard business

from a low base as

conditions as being well | terms with it.

months, although securities traders and building societies were also optimistic. The most downbeat were the banks, followed by general insurers and insurance bro-

The confidence among the life assurers appeared to raise some eyebrows among the CBI team. John Hayes, a partner at the accountancy firm Coopers & Lybrand, which helped put the survey together, pointed out that life insurers were under unprecedented pressure from banks and building societies in the

struggle for customers.
The life industry needs to establish its strategic position somewhat urgently," he said. The most obvious explanation for the life insurers' relatively rosy view of the world is that they are entering 1996 after a couple of dismal years. The pensions mis-selling

scandal knocked the industry for six. That was closely followed by regulatory changes which forced the companies to disclose their commission charges. That regime has now operated for a year and companies and customers are showing signs of coming to

Nevertheless, it would be brave soul who would predict that the life companies were heading for a boom. "I would be a little sceptical about improvement in confidence in the life sector," Mr Hayes

Mr Junankar said it was not the aim of the survey to put a figure on the expected job cuts. He said that it was important not to concentrate on overall figures as the forecasts from the different types of financial services sectors revealed very different

Employment in the banks. for instance, fell sharply and quickly over the past three months, and the banks were warning the trend would continue. General insurers also cut jobs, although not so dra-

Life assurers had cut staff ruite severely. Although further reductions were planned. these would be less marked By contrast, employment increased, and is set to continue to rise, in finance houses, building societies, securities trading, and fund manage-

The financial services industry as a whole is struggling to keep a grip on costs amid increasing competition with margins almost flat. Things are likely to get even

The business is likely to include new-style entrants such as retailers, of which the recent foray into the market by Marks & Spencer is a prime example.

|Paper maker faces £62m bill UK and Éurope

Tony May

THE Arjo Wiggins Apple ton paper group is axing 260 UK jobs in a reorganisa-tion that will make 7 per cent of its 9,900 European manufacturing employees

The cuts will cost £62 milion and, after accounting write-offs and revalua-tions, profit for 1995 will be lown £100 million, the board said.

Analysts said that the oom in pulp and paper prices — some prices have jumped 50 per cent in 18 months -- was coming to an end. Many customers for the group's top-quality glossy and tracing papers had been holding back, hoping prices would fall. Cob Stenham, the Arjo chairman, said the group's

fine papers division would stop making unprofitable commodity papers and focus on branded and other high-value products. The group said that 160 of

the jobs would go from its Lincoln factory, which is involved in thermal paper production and is due to close next year. That operation is due to be transferred to Cardiff where some 80 jobs will be lost from its

A further 20 jobs are ear marked to go from a site in Borehamwood in Herts and the group is cutting 235 jobs in France, 180 in Belgium and 15 in Germany.

News in brief

called "access providers".

deliberations go on

SIX Maxwell case jurors were examined by a doctor yesterday after complaints of chest infection. The illnesses were not serious enough to postpone deliberations today, but the judge ordered humidifiers to moisten the air in the jury room. The seven women and five men have now sat for a week without eaching verdicts.

Kevin and Ian Maxwell and financial adviser Larry Trachbenberg deny one charge of conspiring to defraud pension funda by misusing £22 million worth of pensioners' assets between November 5 and November 21, 1991. Kevin denies a second charge of conspiring with his late father Robert to defraud pension funds by misusing £100 million of pensioners' assets between July 3 and November 6, 1991. — Dan Aikinson

£1.6bn to develop fresh fields

SEVEN oil and gas fields in the North Sea. 150 miles east of Aberdeen, are to be developed at a cost of £1.6 billion following the Government's decision yesterday to give the go-ahead to the Eastern Trough Area Project. Owned by BP, Shell, Esso, Agip, Murphy, BHP and Mitsubishi Oil, the fields have estimated reserves of 400 million barrels of oil, 35 million barrels of natural cost liquids, and 1.1 willion cubic that a first Paillion costs of mallion barrels of matural cost liquids. gas liquids, and 1.1 trillion cubic feet of gas. Drilling of 30 wells starts this summer with production due in 1998. — Chris Barrie

Britannia refuses Access

BRITANNIA Building Society has closed its Instant Access account to new investors. A spokeswoman said the society had faced unprecedented numbers of speculative investors since the flotation announcement from the Woolwich. The society said people had been "queuing out into the streets" with the £500 minimum needed to open a share account and qualify for a windfall should the society announce that it will become a bank. — Cliff Jones

Hoax turbulence at Fokker

SHARES in Dutch aeroplane maker, Fokker, hit heavy turbulence yesterday after publication of a "hoax" fax claiming that the group was running up heavier than expected losses. The unsigned fax, on paper carrying the letterhead of the company's biggest shareholder, Daimler-Benz Aerospace, but written in English, was dismissed as a crude forgery by Fokker. Shares in Fokker plunged, losing almost 40 per cent of their value at one point yesterday, but they later recovered to 9.60 milders. Mark Milner. guilders. — Mark Milner

مكاب الامل

Close shave for Agassi

David irvine in Melbourne

T LEAST Andre Agassi can count himself in good com-pany. He almost relinquished his title yesterday in the opening session of this year's Australian Open at Flinders Park.

The shaven-headed American emulated the escapology of such past holders as Bjorn Borg, John McEnroe, Stefan Edberg, Yannick Noah and Ivan Lendl by surviving in five sets. Twice two points from elimination in the fourth set, he beat Gaston Etilis, a 21-year-old Argentin-ian qualifier ranked No. 133, 3-6, 7-6, 4-6, 7-6, 6-3. Leading 6-3, 4-0, Etilis was preparing to celebrate. "I

thought then, I win easy," he said. He was even contemplating how to break the news to his family in a 3am call to Buenos Aires.

Many spectators shared his optimism at that stage. Agassi, playing with his right knee heavily strapped, seemed half asleep, lacking in concentration and self-belief. Only when the danger signals were blaring did he respond with the inspired tennis he is

I was there the whole match," said Agassi, who had damaged his knee the previous evening by knocking it against the rail on his hotel's spiral staircase. Yet at no stage did the American feel that Etlis had the match won.

"Anyway, he was getting pretty creative with finding ways to lose it," he said. "And be still had to finish it off, which you know is sometimes the most difficult part." And so it proved. Agassi survived the first crisis at 0-4 in the second set by winning the next three games before levelling at 5-5 and taking the tiebreak 7-2. Then, when on the brink at 4-5 in the fourth — and again at 3-5 in an even

Ironically it was one of Etlis's most productive strokes, the drop shot, that proved his undoing when he served for the match at 5-4. Time after time he had stranded Agassi with this shot but, when it mattered, Agassi pounced on it twice. A double-fault followed and, in a flash, Etlis's best chance was gone. In the tiebreak Agassi was just too steady for him.

Agassi later explained that he had not risked his knee chasing after drop-shots on points of no significance.
But when he's trying to close it out, that's different. You have no choice."

A desperately disappointed Ettis — who can now be counted with other notable near-missers like Victor Amaya, Shlomo Glickstein, Amos Mansdorf, Mark Dickson and Olivier Delaitre managed to take away one crumb of comfort.

"I know now I can play with the big players," he said.
"And that is important." Wins by six Australians, in-

wins by six Australians, in-cluding Patrick Rafter and the 19-year-old power mer-chant Mark Philippoussis, de-lighted a record first-day crowd of 22,000 at the enlarged national tennis stadium, whose complex has been enlarged by an £11 million development of 10 new courts, two with permanent stands, and a lavish function

Philippoussis, a fierce striker of the ball, needed to save two set points in a tight first set before scoring a 7-6, 6-0, 6-1 win over Nicolas Kiefer, the 18-year-old German who won the juniors here last year. A clash with Pete Sampras could follow later in the week.

Most women's matches went as expected with only one seed beaten. In an always tightly fought encounter Natasha Zvereva, the No. 12, lost 6-2, 4-6, 7-5 to the Russianborn Israeli Anna Smash-nova, a 19-year-old who has made a habit of upsetting the closer second tiebreak - it was the American whose odds in early Grand Slam



Out of the shadows . . . Docherty faces the past and the press yesterday before facing Jimenez on Saturday TOM JEMONS

Docherty plays second fiddle

Kevin Mitchell

HE British bantam weight champion Drew Docherty learnt another cruel truth of his sport yesterday when he had his thunder stolen by a heavyweight. As he discussed his world title fight in Mansfield next Saturday, all the talk was about a considerably more glamorous bout between Lennox Lewis and Riddick Bowe in Las Vegas on April 20. There will be further

news of that Caesars Palace fight today when Lewis's manager Frank Maloney elaborates on the complica tions of a deal first mooted in New York on Sunday by Bowe's manager Rock Newman.

Caesars Palace spokesman
Phil Cooper was unaware
of a deal. But there is enough speculation to send a buzz through the shop-window division.

Docherty, meanwhile. having flown to London from Glasgow to meet the national press, spoke with quiet dignity about coping with the death of James Murray and about his challenge for the 8st 6lb belt of Puerto Rico's World Boxing Organisation champion Daniel Jimenez.

The Scot hardly needed reminding that Murray's death in their British title fight in Glasgow last Octo-ber had beightened interest in his appearance, but he tractual differences with had learned to cope with the cable network Time the attention. "Sparring

Warner-HBO Sports have yet to be "sorted out"; Newbarner says Bowe and Lewis have agreed to terms; and a different [than before] but howing is my livelihood. It is all I have to support my family with."

His manager Tommy Gilport my family with."
His manager Tommy Gilmour conceded that Jimenez "avoids no one. He is an

exceptional champion". He is indeed, having beaten Duke McKenzie and Alfred Kotey, Docherty's conqueror in four rounds a year ago: he also lasted 12 rounds with the outstanding Mexican super-bantamweight Marcos Antonio Barrera. But Docherty said: "I can't wait for the first bell."

• The Glasgow fighter Davey McHale is injured and will not fight P J Gallagher of London for the vacant British super-featherweight title in Bracknell on Friday. Gallagher will now meet the Ukrainian Rakhim Mingaleyev for the vacant WBC International

P Carbony M Duyer + R Democal

D Parker (3) P Looky (3) B Harding (3) Wr K Windon (0)

American Football

Cocky Cowboys swagger into **Super Bowl**

Mark Tran in New York

HE Dallas Cowboys are on their way to the Super Bowl for the third time in four years, and they

are swaggering.
"We're not going to the
Super Bowl," the Cowboys
wide receiver Michael Irvin
declared. "We're going home. We let somebody borrow our house last year. Now we're moving back in."

After beating the Green Bay Packers 38-27 on Sunday to win the National Conference title, the Cowboys are heavy favourites for Super Bowl XXX against the Pittsburgh Steelers, who barely held off the Indianapolis Colts, the surprise team of the season, 20-16 in the American Confer-

ence championship game.
The Cowboys may be cocky
but they have the talent to back up their big mouths. The American Conference's long Super Bowl drought is set to continue in the Arizona desert on January 28. Not since the Los Angeles Raiders upset the Washington Redskins in 1984 has an American Conference team won a Super Bowl. The Packers have had to endure a similar history of frus-

tration against the Cowboys, losing their last five games at Texas Stadium. They came this time with a more rounded team, a tougher attitude and Brett Favre, the NFL's Most Valuable Player, at quarterback.

kept Green Bay in the game for about three quarters despite the lack of any running game. But then he threw an interception with 12 minutes left that allowed the Cowboys

Holmgren. "And they were

knowledge of the NFL and tactical flexibility but he may

be learning fast.
"We're in back-to-back NFC championship games and everyone says the guy can't coach," Irvin said. "Will you please give this man a little

credit?"
The Packers bardly saw the ball in the first half but Favre made the most of his opportunities. After failing to connect with his first six attempts he found Robert Brooks for a 73yard touchdown pass. In the second quarter he released a perfectly timed pass to the tight end Keith Jackson for a smooth 24-yard touchdown. And after Brooks caught an-other Favre touchdown pass in the third quarter Green

Bay led 27-24.

By the fourth quarter, however, the heat and the Cowboys' huge offensive line had worn down Green Bay's defence, which had spent an inordinate amount of time on the field in the first half Details. the field in the first half. Dal-las retook the lead with a

smoothly on the next series when Favre tried to force a pass down the right sideline that was picked off by Larry Brown. Even the Packers realised the gig was up. They had no answer as Alkman, Smith and Irvin moved the Cowboys relentlessly towards the end zone. Smith finished off the drive with a 16-yard

touchdown run.
Smith finished with 150 yards and three touchdowns. The Packers gained a total of 48 yards on the ground.
"I'm glad it struck mid-night," Irvin said. "Cinder-

was said to be in serious con-dition with a cracked skull sustained during Sunday's game. The coach was knocked over on the sideline when the Dallas safety Darren Wood-son and the Green Bay wide receiver Robert Brooks

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Penny drops over tax cut

David Hadert

GREEMENT has been reached at the eleventh hour on how racing should use the one per cent reduction in General Betting Duty that Chancellor Ken-neth Clarke announced in the November Budget.

It was made clear following the Budget by Treasury officials that the cut must be passed directly to punters, which will result in them paying nine pence in the pound reduction for their pleasure instead of the present 10. But the Chancellor's ruling

that the tax cut must benefit the racing industry, the bookies and greybound racing set off an instant debate on how the expected increase in betting turnover should be passed on to the various parties.

The big three bookmakers, Hill. Coral and Ladbrokes, put up a proposal to give up 15p for every £100 of turnover, but the smaller bookies would not come into line, saying they could only afford to con-

tribute 8p for every £100.

An outline agreement had to be presented to the Treasury before the Finance Bill was debated in the Commons yesterday. Fevered last-ditch talks continued between the British Horseracing Board and the Bookmakers Com-mittee well into yesterday before a compromise was

reached.

The agreement will now be presented to the Levy Board for ratification as soon as possible. Only then will an announcement be made of how the tax cut will be sliced

yesterday rewarded for his sure handling of One Man in sure handling of One Man in the King George VI Triple print Chase with the ride on the grey for the rest of the season.

Montherator, which was not run forced sore shins, has not run over hurdles since finishing ninth behind Alderbrook in the Champion Hurdle at Chellegas of the champion Hurdle at Chellegas of the champion forced in the Champion Hurdle at Chellegas of the champion forced in the champion forced

He has been handed the tenhan last March. He has been handed the reins on jump racing's most exciting performer following discussions between owner John Hales and trainer Gor-

Hales, who had indicated the ride on One Man would return to his usual partner, Tony Dobbin, said: "Following his win in the King George, where One Man started favourite, we now find

that our horse has been made favourite for the Gold Cup. "As in the King George, this will be One Man's first Gold Cup and both Gordon and I agree that it would be

"It is now possible that One Man may not have a race 1.30 HADRIANS WALL HOWCES CHASE 34 CO. TI prior to the Pestival as Gor-don has been offered the facil-

ping at Sandown, but needed the outing. I think he will stay all right. I couldn't wish for a better ride." Montelado is 11-8 favourite

with Paddy Power, the Irish bookmaker, for next Sunday's

Richard Dunwoody was and Sunday is the obvious

pected to be in the line-up.

Carlisle runners and riders with form

A Thorston
A Dobble
Bir C Bosson (2)
B Deservoir
J Buthe
F Perrati
D 4 Mediat?
T Reed
L Byer
B Unberry
P Carberry
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N Doyar
A Books (2)

.30 The Grey Mock (ub)

3.00 Mr Wooduoci 2.20 MONTHAVE (men)

es blinkers. Going: Good (good to soft in pinces) n beschets after boron's name of danc since intest H.H. outin 1.00 HAWORTH HOWCEST HARDLE (DIV I) 20 17 22,588

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110 CHYSTAL CERT A WINDLE (14) D Mohat 1-1-0
111 ON ORTHUNING CHARMISM (10) 6 Albon 4-10-7
111 TIRAL RESIDENTS J CHARMISM (10) 6 Albon 4-10-7
1113 TIRAL RESIDENT J CHARMISM 1-10-2
114 retembers | 103 | 0-3 MILHALLY BOY (48) J Provid Johnson 6-11-6 |
104 | LOTHIAN COMMODORIE G Richards 6-11-6 |
105 | SICKETTS GASTLE for S Brunst 6-11-5 |
106 | O THE NEXT WALTZ (87) L Longo 5-11-5 |
107 | ED JANNILTIMO (12) B Mohat 6-10-1 |
108 | 0- KRITLE SUPENSTAR (285) L Longo 7-11-0 |
109 | 15-SHERMO (2008) (52) H (Enterly 4-11-0 |
110 | CHYSTAL GETS A WINDOM 4-10-7 |
111 | OS GENERAL JUNEO (141) F Morphy 4-10-7 |
112 | ON NORTHWEN CHARMEN (10) 6 Action 4-10-7 |
113 | TERA PRESENTS J O'NER 4-10-7 |
114 | HEY UP SOLLY J O'NER 4-10-7 |
115 | PORM TUPS Existing Edge 8, So Rever 7, General Juneo 8 |
1996 Wesselvand 6 1 11 2 J Burke 38-1 (Mrs 8 Bressell 18 cm.)

1996: Newskrafe E 112 J Burke 35-1 (Mrs & Brewall) 12 ras Betting: 11-4 Jocks Gross, 7-2 Strong Edge, 9-2 Lothian Commodorn, 6-1 Be Brave, 9-1 Xillbully Boy, General Jimbo, 10-1 Hey Up Dolly, 12-1 Rocketts Gentle.

and I agree that it would be wise to retain the services of Richard Dunwoody whose experience of having ridden in the race on many previous occasions could prove invaluable.

"It is now possible that One

201 4131-11 THE GREY MORK (84) (C) G Richards 8-12-1 202 51/905- BENGELAZ (286) A Thompon 12-17-5 203 25(0- EUSECHIN ALDRIG (242) F Marphy 7-11-5

dom has been offered the facilities of some of the northern courses to help in One Man's preparation.

"Should One Man have a race prior to the Gold Cup, the most likely venue would be Cheltenham on January 27 to give the horse another opportunity over the Gold Cup fences."

Dumwoody feels that One Man will get the Gold Cup fences."

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Dubliner, 16-1 Craible Nacional, Go Selly, Devise Acade.

FORM GUIDE - THE GREY BIOME Octo-on, made all, scored very sently by a distance from Solan (Cultide 2045), Gd;

GHALLE RECHARGED Lost tooch sons after Instruy, snound 49 7th to Majoral (Newcastie Sta, Gd).

GO SELLY Objected those 8 bod, over SN 8th to Major Bell with LAUDER SOUANE (Jevela) had to bit, resultered 10 out, talked of 12th of 14 friethers and DOPLIN GASTLE (gv 10th mid-diversor when half 9 out (Nebu Sm1, GD-Sn)

TUDOR FELLOWS Led from 4th to 2 out, washaned run-in, 81 3nd of 7 finishers to Eastly Joker In Insulicap Photoson Sn11, Gd.

rounder remainres des sons entre et et con, temmentes rain-in, ill 341 or 7 intelhers to Eastry Joke? In hundicap (histoism 5m1), Gd). VIII-PBI DE L'AURIEME Ubracod since November, 1984 when made relatables but led to 7 out, over 90 3nd of 4 finalisms to Scotton Buston (Notherby Smill, Gd-88). VYDING DUBLIEME From the, beadway from reer to late! 4 out will intellate next, Sir last el 3 finalbors to Calife Yorn (Descaster 3m, Gd-Fre).

bookmaker, for next Sunday's AIG Europe Champion Hurdle at Leopardstown.

Pat Flynn, the nine-year-old's trainer, said: "He runs unless we meet some unforeseen problem.

"While he is a better horse in the spring, and I could be a little happier with him at the moment, he needs a run over hurdles before Cheltenham and Sunday is the obvious target."

Montelado, who has suffered sore shins, has not run to the spring and in the spring in the spring and it is the obvious target."

Montelado, who has suffered sore shins, has not run to the spring and in the spring in the spri 2.00 NAWDEYS HOVICES HURBLE (DIV II) 2m 1f 52,584

F1FF0 WHID PONCE (85) (0) (0) G Richards 11-12-0 131-55 NONTHANTS (28) (0) W Storby 10-11-2 3114-55 F0ORT LINE (10) J O'Noll P-10-10 1/L/11-2 GENERIAL WOLFE (45) (0) (8F) T Forster 7-10-8

406 13-2UPS STROME SOUND (11) (07) P Chiesbrough 9-1 406 231-701 LEE DESTECTOR (46) (07) C Parture 3-10-0 -407 10/12-8 INCHARDEON (27) J FacGerald 6-10-0 408 1144-0 BARREY NUBBLE (15) D INSIGN 11-10-0 511US ADRIBER (31) Mrs S Branul 6-10-0

TOP FORM TIPD: General Wells & Prest Line 7, Lie Detector & 1906: Cullide Boy 9 10 0 B Shorey 13-1 (Airs J D Goodfellow) 12 ram Betäleg: 6-4 General Wolle, 7-2 Lie Detector, 5-1 Frod Line, 6-1 Wind Force, 6-1 Northants, Picharison. FORM GUIDE WHILD FORCE in handicap herdie on balest start when led to habety, more lost place and tailed off from 4 out, distance use of 15 forstners in race won by Chast Essaby Physicot, 2m78, Cd). BORTFRANTS: In bandicap hurdle had three when in touch, ridden 4 out, washased 2 out, 8th of 5 finishers, but 16 to Home Counties (Herdock, 2m44, Cd). FRONT LINES On latest start behind until headway butleay, oom washased and tailed oil, 6th of 7 finishers. Smith a Deal Mended to the control of the

FROMT LIME On lated start behind into himoway animay, agon wassaway and used on or remained to Smith Band (Haydock 7m; Sh) of Smith Band (Haydock 7m; Sh) desaudda, WOLPS Prohibing chaser, ran stoned race on reappearations when needed race, headway behavior, mistakes 5 and and rood, kept on fex, 2nd of 7 finishers, bin 35 by Greenbith Tare Away (Chepstow 2m/2s, Cal-Std.

LEE DESTINCTIONS Confirmat earlier promise last time when led from 2nd, let's well clear last, etc. by 141 from Colet Mistrags, 10 ran (Newcastle Sm, Cal).

3.00 BRANFTON HANDICAP HURDLE 2to 15 CS, 100 \$110-03 GOLDEN HELLÓ (5) (3) M H Easter by 5-11-10 502 \$129-14 MR WOODCOCK (80) (8F) Mrs M Reveley 11-11-7 603 6000 UNIAM DANCING (6) B Elleon 7-10-10 504 (1)242- CATTRIBERS CLOUR (804) C Parter 6-10-6

TOP FORM TIPS: 10: Mandanch 2. Golden Kells 7

1993; Bygnan Mill & 10 4 P Minn 6-4 Gifts M Heveligh 12 can Bettings 6-4 für Woodcock, 2-1 Golden Hello, 7-2 Urban Dancing, 4-1 Caltimess Closel

Restling 6-4 for Woodcock, 2-1 Golden Helle, 7-2 Lithen Descring, 4-1 Calthrees Cloud.

PORRIE GARDEL - HER WOODCOCK: Pan as though sometrising writes in handicap cleane on bases start when headings of out, so not resultend, 4th of 5 finishers, bit 213 to General 17-score (Wetterby 20x65, Gd-Fm), GOLDEN HEBLO: Valid up behind, tempered 4th, and resover, 221 8th of 12 finishers to Frickley (Wetterby 20x Gd-St).

URBAND SANCORD: In claimer last time when helted until headiney 5 cut, kept on under predaum ran-in, 2nd of 8 briefers, bits 131 by Aragon Ayr (Meto-20x6), Gd-Stu.

CALTHRIESS CLOUTS First man here same December 1934 when led, clear 2 cut, just caught, 2nd of 7, bits tell by Phembol (Newcastle 2cnd., Co)

3,30 LAMERCOST HANDICAP CHASE DIS 12,018

3-30 LAMEROST HANDROAP CHARE 2m (2,414
801 429-32 BOSTEARYE (11) P Montenth 7-11-10
802 12974- KAMEDARIA (2007) (37) N Taking 9-11-7
803 F-1212 AUDICIAL FIELD (6) (35) N Taking 9-11-7
804 13057- BEADO GALE (803) D NCCURP 11-11-1
805 2-6525 BUIST BE BAGGAL (83) P Breatley 8-11-0
805 47-213 ALIMBOR DRIME (87) (37) N Harmond 7-10-12
807 MSZ-4P CHELL WIND (22) N Bycool 7-10-12
808 SY153-) STORMY CONAL (87) C Parker 8-10-11
809 BUSS-P PORT IN A STORMY (7) IN Harmond 7-10-0
810 2020- FUSINY CAD GAMES (265) D McCurp 9-10-8
811 802-5 BACCOMACHE (12) N Dode 9-10-0
812 80225 DOSTORD BUIT (20) (88) N Arcticom 12-10-0
812 80225 DOSTORD BUIT (20) (88) N Arcticom 12-10-0

12 remove TOP FORM YIFS: Judicial Floid S, Hentrove 7, Starrey Coral S 1985: The Lacryman 7 to 7 T Read 8-1 (Lange) 11 zm Betting: 13-4 Nortraw, 7-2 Judecal Reid, 9-2 Storny Coral, 6-1 Kerndolni, 8-1 Fanny Old Game, 18-1 Port to A Storm, Alliese Norte.

In A Surm, Allienac Normia.

FORMER GESPET - KANDENAMELE FITSI cace here since hing white behind usual beachesy 3 cut, eventured passi, 4th of 7, bit 1730 to beying (Set-Set), Gel-Set, June 1730 to Set, Gel-Set, Gel-Set,

4.00 MILTON HANDICAP HURBLE 2m 4/ 110/4: (2,879 ***-CO SECTOR MANDROCAP NORTHER 2nd ** 110-yes Capers

1 11)-Fir William (200) (CDI) C Parker 7-11-7

2 489-634 TRAINS (200) (CDI) C Parker 7-11-7

4 469-7-6 AMAZON EXPRESS (22) F Boren 7-11-4

5 129-42 PRAINLESS WORKER (100) IN his M Reveloy 5-10-15

5 129-42 PRAINLESS WORKER (100) IN his M Reveloy 5-10-15

1 129-42 PRAINLESS WORKER (100) IN his M Reveloy 5-10-15

1 129-42 DARCHING ROLLY (100) IN Wilders 5-10-15

8 278-400- ARKEROLD (250) (200) A Whitens 5-10-10-1

1 1 1000-01 JIMAAD (23) (0) J Norton 6-10-3

1 1 1 1000-01 JIMAAD (23) (0) J Norton 6-10-3 It Survey (3)
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D Parker (3)
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Er S Swiege
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A Watt (7)
El Strumen
E Callegian (6)

grinding 14-play, 90-yard drive that ended with Smith darting in from five yards. The Pack were moving

After a shaky start Favre

to pull away for victory.

"Troy Aikman, Emmitt Smith and Michael Irvin are Packers' wide receiver coach, as fine an offensive team as I've ever seen assembled.' said the Packers coach Mike

Barry Switzer also earned a belated share of the credit.

The Dalias head coach is per-ceived to be deficient in crashed into him.

Lingfield (A.W.)

1.45 Miss Offset 2.15 What's The Ver 3.15 Field Of Vie

Draw Law combers forcered, Galacy Stee ard, + Desertes blire 1.15 EYES APPRENTICES HANDICAP OF CA,723

1 20134-0 SOLHRE CORRES (T) (D) G Harwood 4-9-12

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TOP FORM TSPC Cheety Cheety S, Seper Rocky 7, Distant Dynasty 6
1995; Missecres 4 6 6 A Eddery 7-8, (2 Mishells) 6 reas Betting: 2-1 Cheety Chepty, 5-2 Seper Rocky, 5-1 Half Tone, Tee-Erro, 7-1 Distant Dynasty, 8-1 Square

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T hes 6
J Weever 10
T Ashley (7) SY
M Telebott 7
P McCabe (2) 8
J Colon 3+
D Riggs 2
Q Bardwell 4
T Williams 1+

A Clurk 54

17921-2 WHATE THE VERDICT (4) M. Johnston 4-9-5
17929-- CALL, ME ALER (22) G I. Moore 5-9-4
17929-- CALL, ME ALER (22) G I. Moore 5-9-4
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DD- BARBASOR (109) A Moore 4-8-7 401- CALL TOPPIORSE (204) C Morray 4-9-7 00305- DESERT WATER (20) J Bridger 4-8-7 502- GETBOX (121) M Preson 4-9-7

7 00000-0 ASTROMOT (11) S Knight 4-9-2
3 353-22 AWASHA (10) Miss G Kollewy 4-9-2
8 00000- LOMELY VICE (122) K Canaloghan-Brown 410 00000-0-SEMBM in Johnston 5-8-6
11 0-EXEX MAAS (20) S Williams 3-8-6
12 002-FARROST (20) M Prescot 9-3-8
13 00-ALISTARS DANCER (20) T Neighbon 8-8-0
14 0-MOSTHERN REPACLE (74) C Was 3-8-0

TOP FORM TIPS: Parmost S, Armsis 7, Beaut Water 6
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Rettings 6-4 Fermost 3-1 Avetsta, 9-2 Double-O-Seven, 6-1 (lifbox, 12-1 Desert Water, Russ) 3.15 MEMPORT NAMENCAP 1 m 21 C2,075

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4 50912-5 ANWESOME POWER (12) (CD) J Nils 10-0-3 A Clark 6
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6 10501-3 TOTAL RACE (12) (CD) H legram 4-0-13 D Signs 9-7
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1945: Kantik Houset 4 9 E R Conbraso 3-1 (R Collegion) 11 stat
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Monk to keep up winning habit



Cricket

Mike Selvey on the bitter retaliation of the fast bowler whose South Africa tour produced only humiliation

Malcolm delivers a wide

EVON Malcolm came to South Africa with high expectations. Two years ago he put the fear of God into the South African batsmen at The Oval and took nine wickets for 57 runs. figures that have been bettered only five times in the 118-year history of Test

He wanted to do so again ing England to victory in South Africa. Instead it all ended in tears. Malcolm played in only two Tests one in Johannesburg, where he took six wickets in the match, and the last of the series, and surely the last of his career, in Cape Town.

Here at Newlands his career turned full circle. A new-ball spell that possibly cost England the match brought derision from the crowd and was followed by a fumbled piece of fielding that saw the ball speed through his legs to the boundary.

For most of the tour Mal-

colm, by his own admission. has felt unwanted, ill-treated and scorned by the England management, his reputation undermined when Raymond Illingworth and the bowling coach Peter Lever humiliat-ingly ordered him to the nets. At issue, chiefly, has been Malcolm's approach to bowling and bowling advice. Mal-colm has a flaw whereby he stride and trots off at an angle afterwards. Illingworth and Lever suggested that he made a minor adjustment that would improve both his effi-

ciency and his accuracy. This advice was soon media-enhanced into a demand for a changed action. It was no such thing, any more than a tweak to a golfer's grip is the equivalent of ordering Nick Faldo to rebuild his swing. But this is also a story of the irresistible force and

Illingworth is a bully and a stubborn one at that. His captaincy of Yorkshire. Leicestershire and England has afforded no time for softies. Test cricket is a hard school and he wants men of iron: anyone who does not conform to his ideals can be dismissed

Nor does he shy from mak-ing such statements public, as those who attended a lunch with him in London 14 months ago, where he system-atically undermined his captain from a distance of 12,000 miles on the eve of the first Ashes Test in Brisbane, will testify. It was shocking. So, when Malcolm could

not or would not respond to but this time in their own the advice of the coaches, he country: a black man bowl-was dismissed as "a cricket-

was dismissed as "a cricketing nonentity" and as "not
having a cricket brain".

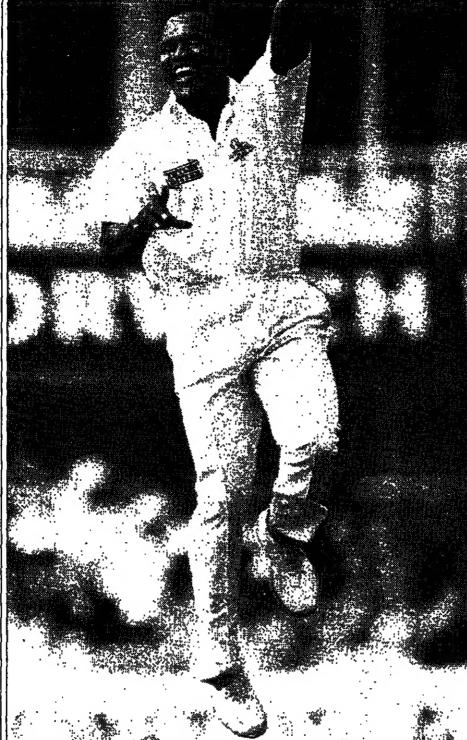
Derogatory statements
about players are bandied
about in dressing-rooms the
world over — but not in the
public prints, and in that
regard Malcolm had every
right to feel aggrieved —
more humiliation and for a
black man in South Africa at black man in South Africa at management but was it malicious? And is Malcolm not as stubborn as Illingworth?

Malcolm does not take

kindly to criticism, yet Illing-worth could argue that flattery does not work either. Malcolm's bowling at The Oval apparently followed a fearsome bollocking from Atherton, and it was the now legendary crack on the head while batting that fired him up. Atherton, himself a belligerent man, intolerant at times, is known to have been frustrated by Malcolm's in-transigence for some while. It all appears to have been six of one and half a dozen of the

Malcolm has received much public sympathy during the tour but perhaps has now sac-rificed some of that with suggestions of racism that have no evidence to back them. "I have to ask, would this have happened if I had been a white bowler." Malcolm writes in a tabloid newspaper. The answer, knowing the individuals, is very much "Yes" if the circumstances were the

If his treatment has been shabby, then to go public himself with such remarks is equally so. Nelson Mandela has been Malcolm's inspiration on this tour but now, at the end, he appears to have forgotten this. Mandela knows how to keep his coun-sel and his dignity — but then



Rugby League

Bramley pull out the biggest plum

Paul Fitzpatrick

FIRST DIVISION

Hudd. Town

RAMLEY were given the most thankless task of the fourth round of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup yesterday when they were drawn away to Wigan, who competition since 1987.

There is not much chance of an upset there, but the remaining amateur clubs. Thatto Heath and West Hull, were

Thatto Heath, convincing I winners at Chorley on Sunday, will travel to Rochdale and West Hull, winners at Highfield, were drawn at home to York. With Hull and Hull KR also drawn at home, Humberside will be in for a busy weekend.

It seems certain that West Hull will play at the Boulevard, possibly on the Friday night, and Gary Lumb, one of the club's joint coaches, said they would be disappointed if the crowd was under 5,000.

There is no argument about | what has been a grim end to | ther talks with my chairman tle of the round. Castleford. who won the tournament in 1986 before Wigan began their long run of domination, meet St Helens, gallant losers to Wigan in Saturday's Regal

Trophy final. The Castleford game was the natural choice for the BBC cameras. The other all-Championship clash is between Oldham, the last side to beat Wigan — 42 games ago —

the centenary season. David Young's hope of playing rugby union with Sale in the off-season has been dashed by his club, Salford. Salford's chairman John

Wilkinson sald yesterday: "Nobody from Salford will be going to Sale and all talks between the clubs have broken

"I am disappointed because I had agreed a deal with Sale and Warrington, who are now but I am a contracted Salford looking to the Cup to rescue player and will be having fur-

this week." said Young.

• A decision in the federal court case between the Australian Rugby League and Rupert Murdoch's News Limited is not expected for at

least two more weeks. PAST TWO THORS WERS.

SILK CUIT CHALLENGE CUP: Poerforceme draws Keighley v Barrow, Braidford v Batley; Workington v Wadney, West Hull v York, Hull v Husseld, Wigan v Bramley; Carlelle v Wadneshelt, Will KR v Leigh; Swinton v Leeds: Casticiord v St Helens.

Safford v Fautherstone, Hudderstaeld v Shelleld, Oldbalen v Warrington; Whilelayen v Halias; Dewabury v London Bronoos; Rochdale v Thrifts Health to be played January 25-27, 25).

Squash NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (Burning ham), Finah Women: S Horner (Yorks) b L Charman (Sussex) \$\infty\$ 1-4 9-4, 8-1, **Fixtures**

Soccer

FA CUP: Third-record replayer Black-burn v Ipswich (7 45), Oldham v Barneley (7 45): Oslord Uld v Millwail (7 45), En-Vale v Grysta Palsce (7 45): Sine-washery v Fubnam; Sunderland v Mur Uld (7 45). ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE: Society Divisions Bristol G v Bristol Rivs (7 45) Third Div-lations Darllington v Doncaster Lingoln v L Orient.

A STATE OF THE STA

N-W COUNTIES LEAGUE: First Div

New COUNTIES LEAGUE: First Dis-lation Newcodic In v Nantwich To GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Prevalor Dis-sione Bristo (MF v Odd Doen Ain. PONTINS LEAGUE: First Divisions Derby v Leods (f 0); Shoft Uld v Notis Co (7.0). Shoft Wod v Wolverhampton (f 0) Second Divisione Bratford C v Middles-brough (f 0); Coventry v Rotherham (f 0). AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: Peat Divisione Wallord v Luton (20).

(Windsor Pt. Bellasti REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: FA XI Combunyl Servicts (Mangotsheld Uld FC)

Premier League may by-pass 'unjust' Uefa

Martin Thorpe

THE Premier League has become so disillu-sloned with Uefa that it is to form an association of top European Union clubs to by-pass the official governing body.

The clubs' long-held frus-tration was brought to a head by Uefa's muddled response to the Bosman ruling but has been compounded in England by Uefa's reaction to the fielding of weakened sides in last summer's Intertoto Cup.
There is deep-seated con-

cern within the Premier League at Uefa's decision to dock England a Uefa Cup place and now ban Wimble-don and Tottenham Hotspur from European competition

or a year.

"We believe this is a serious injustice," said the Premier League spokesman Mike Lee. The Premier League and the Football Association are considering an appeal against the loss of the Uefa Cup place while representatives of Tottenham and Wimbledon met with the FA yesterday to for large punishment.

Wednesday consequently fielded first-team players and as a result, escaped with a reprimand by Uefa. However, they too will be lodging an appeal.

malise appeals against their bans which will be heard in Geneva on January 26.

The two clubs believe they should not have been punished for fielding understrength sides in the Intertoto Cup because Uefa had previously given them permission to do so.

It is understood that this assurance came from the Uefa general secretary Gerard Aigner in a series of phone calls with the FA and Premier League.

However, the Uefa press pokesman Massimo Gonella argued yesterday that no such permission would have been given as it contradicts Uefa

He also said that after the first round of Intertoto Cup matches Uefa wrote to Tottenham, Wimbledon and Sheffield Wednesday warning that, if they continued to field understrength sides, they would face punishment.

If the clubs lose their appeals, it will only increase the Premier League's determination to take up the European Commission's recent invitation to form an association of top EU clubs that by-passes

The Commission, too, has been annoyed at what it sees as Uefa's obstructive and unhelpful stance on Bosman and by encouraging the Premier League to form an independent group of top EU clubs, is seeking to negotiatate direct with the "coal face".

Stressing the seriousness of the invitation, the Premier League's chief executive Rick Parry said: "We are happy to take the lead in this and we do regard it as a significant

The top clubs inside the EU will initially air their grievances with Uefa at a meeting on February 7, the chief of which is Uefa's refusal to accept the three-plus-two for eigner rule in European club competition. Meanwhile Pre-mier League clubs will almost certainly vote today not to enter this summer's Intertoto

FA set to give Chapman appeal the elbow

Lee, who thought he had broken his cheekbone, said yesterday: "I'm very lucky.

been given the X-ray all-clear and that's a relief." But in de-

fence of Williams he said: "He

didn't mean it. He was sorry

at the time and kept apologis-

Elbowing is one of the most dangerous examples of foul

play. Gary Mabbutt's career

ing through the game.

Paul Weaver on a weekend incident that saw the on-loan striker fall foul of law changes at Spurs was almost ended following a clash with Wimbledon's John Fashanu, and John Uzzell did not play for

THE Football Association | vised game against Coventry last night warned Leeds | when Robert Lee was elbowed last night warned Leeds United and Lee Chapman that their appeal against Saturday's red-card incident could be in vain following a The striker, on loan for a month, was sent off by Paul Danson during his side's 2-0 win over West Ham for elbow-ing the defender Marc Reiper. He said yesterday: "I didn't mean to elbow him. You have to use your arms to get lever-age when you jump and that is what I was doing. I would never do something like that

deliberately." Chapman's plea did not im-press the FA's disciplinary secretary Alan Wilkes, who said yesterday: The law has changed this season. In Law 12, concerning fouls and mishas been taken out, except where it applies to hand-ball. Technically it no longer has to be deliberate. If a player does it accidentally he can be sent off for being reckless." The FA is also conscious of

the recent escalation in elbowing incidents. Earlier this season QPR's David Bardsley was sent off and last week Newcastle's David Ginola received the red card following a clash with Nigel

Winterburn of Arsenal. Newcastle were in the news | Scars of battle . . . Uzzell again during Sunday's tele after his Blissett clash

Torquay again following an incident with Gary Blissett of Brentford which was followed by Paul Williams and the manager Kevin Keegan quipped: "He looks like he has a golf ball in his mouth."

Arthur Smith, secretary of the Referees' Association, said last night: "Elbowing can cause horrendous injury as we have already seen, al though it may be a little early to say whether these cases are on the increase.' Chapman's second spell at Elland Road will now be

shortened by suspension. He rejoined the club with which he won a championship medal in a loan deal from Ips-wich last Tuesday as the manager Howard Wilkinson sought an experienced replacement for Tony Yeboah and Phil Masinga, who are

away on international duty. Wilkinson is so convinced of Chapman's innocence that son a video of the incident

with a request to change his mind. The TV pundit and former Liverpool defender Alan Hansen, however, will not be supporting Chapman's appeal. He claims that the striker regu-

larly raised an elbow in challenges during his 11-club, 17-In Match of the Day on Saturday he said: "Chapman always used to do that. He must

have given me about five black eyes when I played against him."

Venables to give names and dates

David Lacey

WHILE the Football Association's latest panel of head-hunters begins the task of ap-pointing the next England coach, the present incum-bent will today announce a list of names which effectively starts the ball rolling for the European Championship. Terry Venables will then

fly to Warsaw with Graham Kelly, the PA's chief executive, to assist in drawing up a list of fixtures which will be important to his successor's chances of qualifying for the next World Cup.

England will not resume their series of warm-ups for Euro '96 until March 27. when Bulgaria visit Wem-April and Hungary in May. But Venables needs to see his players before then and has arranged two squad the Premier League on the sessions, the first due at Bisham Abbey next week. Venables's decision to

bring the three-day get-together forward by 24 hours, with the players now reporting on Sunday evening, means those involved in West Ham v Manchester United on Monday night will not be available. In Warsaw tomorrow

Kelly and Venables can expect some hard bargaining Poland, Italy, Georgia and

matter of dates. England, for example. will be cager to delay their

Moldova to thrash out a fix-ture list for England's the outgoing England coach World Cup qualifying and the Tottenham chair-group. It is not simply a man Alan Sugar had been opening qualifier until Oc- tinue the mediation if Ven-

at least one friendly before

be is plunged into the World Cup.

Kelly will also try to avoid the sort of back-toback situation suffered by Grabam Taylor last time round, when England found themselves playing in Poland and Norway in the space of five days. But there will have to be some give-and-take and the Italians are masterful fixture negotiators.

The fall-out from Venables's decision to step down after Euro '96 continued yesterday. The FA insisted that the absence from the new panel of Ian Stott, the Oldham chairman who had served on the sub-commit-tee when Venables was ap-pointed, had nothing to do with doubts he had raised over extending the coach's 21/2-year contract.

committee but because of Oldham's subsequent rele-FA chairman Sir Bert Millichip, the chairman of the international committee Noel White, the FA vice-chairman Chris Willcox and Kelly make up the rest of the sub-committee.

Martin Thorpe adds: The FA appeared to leave the when they sit down with door open for a change of representatives from mind by Venables yester-boland Italy. Georgia and day, announcing that the stopped "for the time being". Yet there would seem to be no need to contober to give the next ables is quitting football national coach a chance of after Euro '96.

Leeds swoop for their fifth foreign player

ian Ross

EEDS yesterday became the latest club to exploit the recent Bosman ruling when they welcomed to Elland Road the former German international Uli Borowka. The 33-year-old defender has joined from Werder Bre-men and is likely to remain on trial until the end of the season. Borowka, available for permanent transfer at £300,000, had been expected to sign for Manchester City after talks at the weekend.

A sixth foreigner may well join Borowka, Tony Yeboah. Tomas Brolin, Phil Masinga and Lucas Radebe at Leeds in the next few days. Wilkinson hopes to take on loan the Australian international centreback Tony Popovic from Sydney Croatia.

 Everton and Liverpool are to be given the freedom of the city in a special ceremony on February I. in recognition of their success and contribu-tion to Merseyside life.

 Television evidence will be used for the first time in Scotgation the position was now filled by Southampton's Keith Wiseman. The ton's Keith Wiseman. The full SFA council yester-The full SFA council yesterday voted unanimously for its

Langton dies at age of 77

BOBBY LANGTON, a winger who played 11 times for England in the Forties, has died aged 77. He played more than 100 games for Blackburn in a war-interrupted career from 1937 until he joined Preston in 1948. He moved to Bolton a year

later and played in the 1953 FA Cup final against Blackpool before rejoining Blackburn for three more seasons.

04 Stoke City 02 Sunderland G1 Tottenham Hot. 23 West Ham 29 Wimbledon 16 Wolves 18 Celtic 28 Norwich City

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Rvs or Mangotsteid Utd Banslead Ath y
Peacehaven & Telscombo: Collier Pow y
Anstey, Norteds Brigg Tn y Trafford or
Solay Tn. Fliston y Barwell Thamsemad
In y Canvey Island Belier Tn w Clitheroe.
Ties to be claved on Sat. Feb 3 3.0
AFRICAN MATIONS' CUPY Group &
Egypt 2, Angola 1 Group Be Sien's Leone
2, Burkins Faso 1.

The Independent News Reports Service

Arsenal Aston Villa Birm. City Blackburr Brentford Burnley Chelsea Coventry City Derby County

ES; R Lohr 7C, 71 66. 72.

Tentris

AUSTRALIAN OPEN (Melbourne) First resuch Meen M Chong (LS) bt O Rikl (C2) 6-2. 6-1, 6-2. K Monera (Slovalus) bt O Rikl (C2) 6-2. 6-1, 6-2. K Monera (Slovalus) bt O Adams (SA) 7-5. 6-0. 6-1; M Philippopusate (Aus) bt N Kusler (Gert 7-5. 6-0. 6-1; T Woodbridge (Aus) bt O Corodov (Uzb) 7-8, 6-4. 6-4. J Minner (Switz) bt D Norman (Bell 6-4. 6-4. 6-1; B Riveroed (Aus) bt O Doladtro (Fr) 8-4. 6-2. 6 Execute (Aus) bt D Namhru (SA) 6-2. 6-0. 6-1; W Ferreira (SA) bt J Skat (US) 6-2. 6-1. 8-6. 2-6. 7. 6-1; W Ferreira (SA) bt J Skat (US) 6-2. 6-1. 8-6. 2-6. 7-6. 4. 1-6. 5-7. 6-4. 7-6. 6-1; W Ferreira (SA) bt J Skat (US) 6-2. 6-1. 3-6. 2-6. 7-6. 4-1. 6-4. 7-6. 3-7. 6-1; A Agustai (US) bt G Elits (Arg) 3-6. 7-6. 4-6. 7-6. (-3. J Courter (US) bt J Van Herck (Bell 7-5. 7-6. 6-1; V Kardenlkov (Rus) 1-6. 4-6. 7-6. 6-1. 7-5. M Telebrook (G2) bt S Peacksolide (b) 8-4. 7-6. 1-0 ret; B Mangride (US) bt J Apoli (Seen 7-5. 6-4. P Transcolid (Aus) bt S Nosasty (Man) 7-6. 7-6. 8-2 M Madad (Col) bt A Cheenokov (Rus) 1-6. 6-4 6-6-2 S Larreng (Can) bt A Carlson (See) bt N Lapentin (Ecu) 6-7. 6-3. M Larrenge (See) bt N Lapentin (Ecu) 6-7. 6-3. M Larreng (See) bt N Lapentin (Ecu) 6-7. 6-3. M Larreng (See) bt N Lapentin (Ecu) 6-7. 6-3. M Larreng (See) bt N Lapentin (Ecu) 6-7. 6-3. M Larreng (See) bt N Lapentin (Ecu) 6-7. 6-3. M Larreng (See) bt N Lapentin (Ecu) 6-7. 6-3. M Larreng (See) bt N Lapentin (Ecu) 6-7. 6-3. M Larreng (See) bt N Lapentin (Ecu) 6-7. 6-3. M Reitin (See) bt N Lapentin (Ecu) 6-7. 6-3. M Reitin (Man) (Ma

Wild (US) bt J Husanova (US) 6-2. 6-1, W
Stevanswatzu (Japan) bt C Cristoa (Rom)
4-6-6-2-6-1, A Presol (Fr) M P-Shriver
(US) 6-4, 6-4; T Waittinger Jones (US) bt
N Kijmutia (Japan) bt S Cocchim (I) 6-3, 7-6; I Spirlea (Rom) bt S Testud (Fr) 6-6-7, 8-6; M
Wattanobe (US) bt M De Swardt (SA) 6-4, 8-1, M
Wattanobe (US) bt M De Swardt (SA) 6-4, 8-1, M
Wattanobe (US) bt M De Swardt (SA) 6-4, 5-3; T Kriston (Sicvaka) bt M McGrath

American Football Basketball NBA: Gleveland 89. Phoens 74.

Chess MOCOVERS TOURNAMENT (VI)L aim Zee Noth: S Tevtakov (Rus) v V Ivanchuk. (Ukr. A Shirov (Sp) v V Anand (Ind), M Adams (Eng) v V Topakov (Bul), A Dreev (Rus) v P Leha (Hun). J Puker (Noth) v J Imman (Neih), B Gelland (Belal v R Hubmar (Gar) all dr. zwn: I Sokolov (Bos) 1. L van Waly (Nem) 0. Laaders: Dreev, Sokolov 1X.

Cricket FIRST U-19 TEST (Harare): England 181-4 (A Morris 74, A Flintoff 55) v Zimba-191-4 (A Morry, J. A. Princial Sci V Einbar-brer, No play yostorday, rain SHEFFIELD SHEELD: Adetaider South Australia, 382 and 243-8 dec. New South Walos 284 and 229 South Australia won by 122 runs, Hebertz Vaciona 275 and 206. Tasmania 455-8 dec and 27-0 Tasmania

ice Hockey

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier Division: Cardiff 12. Slough © Durham 10. File 4: Humbersido 8, Newcastle 3; Milton Keynes 3 Notingsham 3, Division One: Blackburn 5, Dursiries 3: Cheimstord 15 Billingham 3; Gulidhord 3, Swindon 7: Medway 7: Yel-terborough 5. Bracknett 7, Solinvill 5 Pals-ley A. ley 4.

NHL: New Jersey 7. Dallas 2: Winnipeg 4.
Anahelm 6, NY Rangers 3: St Louis 3 jot.
Chicago 5, Los Angeles 2, Colorado 4, Cal-

Snooker EUROPEAN LEAGUE (Irbhingborough).
P Ebdon (Eng) Ist J White (Eng) 7-1
GUANGZHOU MASTERS (China) Quarter-desiles Guo Hus (China) bi D Rou
(Eng) 5-3 T Drago (Maltii bi Pang Weijo
(China) 5-0. (China) 5-0.

BRITISH OPEN (Blackpool) Seventh qualifying round (Engline) stated) P Hunter bt L Richardson 5-0 G Homo (Scill M & Magniture 5-0, D Hichonol (L) E Hughes (Ire) 5-1 K Broughton of D

Rugby Union INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Wales v Haly Nat Ground, Cardilli Post insurance country champion-SHIP: Rildiands: Fusit: Warwickchite v Horb Didiands: Purphy CLUB MATCH: Tredegar v Abertificry 17-31

Rugby League STONES CENTENARY CHAMPION-SHIP: Wigan v Bradford ice Hockey

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INS.

Brittle warned of breakaway by top clubs

land's leading clubs
could break away from the
Rugby Football Union if
less progressive members try
to apply the brakes to
RFU nominee.

But Russ promised that Cliff Brittle, the new chair-man of the RFU executive, would be given a fair chance by the professionals within the game to apply his skills to welding the union together amid the current disarray.

ter's director of term business plan for the rugby, yesterday warned that Eng-club would aim to work posi-

Last night the League One clubs met in London to discuss the implications of Suna "seamless" and fully professional RFU. Leicester and "The

shortly draw up a written constitution to be forwarded to Twickenham for official approval.

"The PCA will go its own way either inside or outside the union, though we would prefer it to be inside," said

Russ yesterday. "Why should we have barriers to professionalism among national league clubs put up by big fat fellows from small clubs who day's vote in Birmingham fellows from small clubs who which rejected the concept of haven't played rugby for 30

"The average RFU member is not representative of any the game to apply ms skulls to such a such as the game to apply ms skulls to such a such as the welding the union together amid the current disarray.

The Bath secretary John porters of the Professional Quin cautiously welcomed Clubs' Association which will which was shoved back down

their throats. At the moment the tail is wagging the dog."
Russ, however, took a more Quin. "We welcome his outlook on a business plan — we are already well down that road at Bath. It is the way the clubs are going and it is the conciliatory line on the land-slide election of Brittle, who won by nearly 300 votes. "Cliff has a tremendous op-

portunity even though the ex-ecutive committee did not support him for the job," he said. "We have to give him the chance to demonstrate his ability to hold together a totally split union."

Quin pointed out that Bath were about to consider a long-term business plan at club level that bore comparison Brittle will meet senior offi-cers of the RFU this week to which he believes command with Brittle's planning ideas for the RFU. "It is our job to widespread support among

copy of his terms of reference as chairman, which include the obligation "to form with

right way."

Quin added that Bath were likely to hold an extraordinary general meeting on February 26 to consult members on the future of professional-ism at the club. will be the RFU secretary Tony Hallett and the honor-

the executive a cohesive stra-tegic plan for the future of the union".

The executive have made it clear to Brittle that he is answerable to the president Bill Bishop, who has "overall authority" for the daily run-ning of the union. At Twickenham the new chairman's closest working colleagues

basis to direct sub-committee chairmen and advisory pan-els. In effect, he has an unpaid full-time job on his hands. His main policy aims are:

ately the preparation of a five-year rugby business plan of which the budget forms an integral part.

To maintain the unity of the RFU and the primacy of

English rugby in the world To develop at all levels of the game acceptable competitive structures within a pyra-

cial imperatives.

To provide assistance to the English Rugby Counties Association and the national mittee structure of the RFU. To ensure that the executive committee are represen-

dards will have priority.

To encourage RFU commit-

a sense of urgency to the decision-making process.

To utilise his experience as

a player, coach and business-

man to reconcile the demands

of the game with its commer-

FOR: We Old Farts are rugby's fundament

David Davies on why the game's foot soldiers rebelled

SPEAK as an old fart. When Will Curled-Lip Car-ling tossed that phrase contemptuously into the public domain it rang a bell, not just with his sniggering cronies but with those at whom it was aimed. For we old farts recognise ourselves all right, sometimes even when the other chap is not be-badged and be-blazered and

dribbling down his chin. We recognise each other be cause, maybe, in the dim and very distant past, we played against each other, or because, over the years, we have shared beers and bawdy punch-ups, in the aftermath of victory or defeat. We recognise each other because here we are, years on, still with the club that begat us, that gave and gives us such pleasure.

There are not, of course, 57 of us, there are 5.057 and, until the likes of Rob Andrew and his mob failed to run with the ball but did a runner with the money, we spoke with dis-

Not any more. If Sunday's vote in Birmingham meant

rugger's implausible

T WAS a tragi-comic

débâcle all right when the committee of the RFU was

ambushed, trussed up and held to ransom by its own

backwoodsmen in Birming-

its far-seeing plans for a seamless and open game, the

RFU was forced to convene

another special meeting by

the tribesmen in blazers at

which the first vote will be on

the bald and specific question

of whether the clubs and

counties of England want

As they flounder in their century-old bath of aspic the

rugger men of England at

least want to go down with the satisfaction of sending a

booming Ya-boo which tells the International Board what

it can do with its new open

rugby regulations.
Such a result from the

English shires would cause a

splitting jollity around the

rest of the rugby world than did even Master Will's old

farts' flatulence-in-a-teacup which so enlivened the gaiety

of nations last spring.
At a stroke such a vote

At a stroke such a vote tion to say that he sold the would have England's dozen raffle-tickets at his club every

far greater eruption of side

their game to stay amateur.

Thus it was that, instead of smoothly spiriting through its blueprint for change and

revolutionaries

ham on Sunday.

terms that, while they may bunch of lads who pay out, wish the game to go professay, £3.50 match fee every sional, the huge majority of week plus whatever the team what are still their constitu-

It was also to tell the suits that they are fed up with being taken for granted, for without the 5,057 old farts there would be no Twickers, no lavish dinners after internationals, no lovely long trips abroad. There would be no game of rugby union.

Carling may, in the days when be had to do menial onfield tasks, have done some corner-flagging but has he ever gone out after the game and collected them? Or marked out the pitch before the game, clearing off the cow-pats as he went? Or spent Sunday morning scrubbing the clubhouse floor or clean-ing the loos? I doubt it. That is what old farts are for.

The point about all this is that 96 per cent of clubs in England exist only because of this vast army of free labour who, until now, have done all those dirty jobs, plus all the clean and boring ones, without any complaint. They have done it because someone did it for them and because it enables a new generation to enjoy the amazing and unique atmosphere engendered by

amateur rugby union.
But I sense that Sunday's the suits at Twickers to get the game goes professional at The raspberry blown in Bir-their grubby, grabbing hands all levels, then thousands of mingham on Sunday may off our game. It was to tell the old farts will up and off. It turn out to be even more them in the clearest possible is one thing to help out for a shocking than that.

AGAINST: A final

futile blazer flourish

Frank Keating on or so senior clubs breaking Saturday afternoon and that nucceer's implausible all of them are tooled up for made the clubhouse teas.

full professionalism next sea-

son. And, if the inmates in

and take over the asylum, would they demand the Eng-land squad players pay back

the handsome payments they

Purity has its place in life; so does a romantic's turning

back of clocks. But this thing

is too far gone. These rank-and-file rugger blokes are in imminent danger of making the game a laughing stock. Athletics, golf, tennis and soc-

cer are all games which have adapted to rampant profes-

sionalism at the top and the purity of amateurism at the

What irks these buffers? Or

did revolution stir and hack-

les rise spontaneously on

Sunday just because they suddenly found themselves in

that vast conference-room

"clubhouse" with 800 like-minded souls and blood brothers? And was it one last

despairing and doom-laden collective bray of anguish from this endangered herd?

There were, volced with passion, three mentions of "this great game of ours" in the first nine minutes of

speeches on Sunday. More-

over, in proposing men for the highest office in the do-

mestic game it was the acme

of regard and recommenda-

have already pocketed?

bus costs. It is quite another if

they are *being* paid. Professionalism is like pregnancy in that you either are or you are not and, if the RFU says there is no such thing as amateurism, what happens to junior rugby?

Let's say that a club in, for example, Midlands One acquires a millionaire. He, in dosh and attracting lots of good players. Yet another M1 club attracts half a millionaire and he attracts lots of quite good players. Where does that leave the rest of the clubs who haven't got tup-pence to rub together? Like is not playing like.

And what happens when, after three or four league pro-motions, the millionaire falls out with the club or goes broke? The club rebounds whence it came, with all the no place in the game.

The answer may be for there to be two distinct games, professional and ama-teur, run by different ruling bodies. Clubs could decide for themselves whether they wanted to be part of the professional game or not.

There was booing at Twickers recently as the pro-

The gathering of this clan

used to happen regularly at

was before those new grand-

stands were filled by the

hordes of corporate-hospital-ity City slickers in suits. If

there were 800 in the hall on

Sunday, at least 750 were in the regulation blue club

blazer with faded twirly-wirly

wire badge at the breast. This

round-up and more than likely they knew it, too.

The brand new RFU admin-

istration at Twickenham is as changed as its stadium. It is

now on the ball, slick, profes-sional and even visionary as

it looks with vigour to the next century. But in planning

Sunday's meeting the officers

misjudged totally their mass of blue-blazered footslogging

counter-revolutionaries from

the shires and ran slap-bang

into a stirring mutiny.

But British officers have their methods. They are sly, cunning devils when roused and they know the score. Let

the infantry rebel-rousers think they have made their

point, butter them up with a couple of meaningless conces-sions, let them sleep on their

one-off triumph — and put it

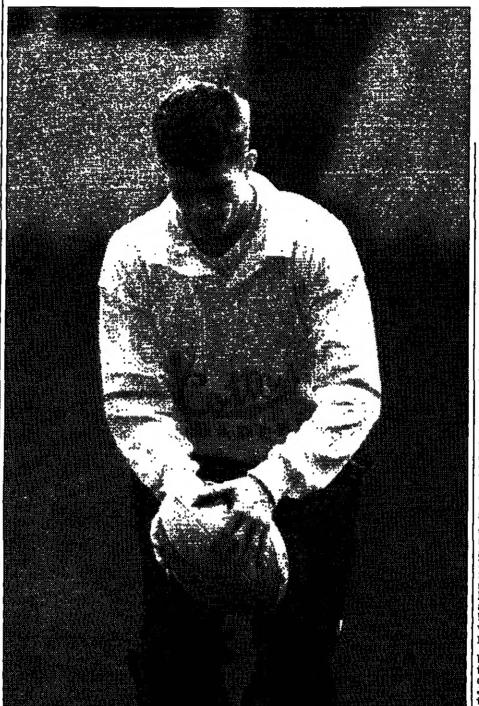
to another vote in six weeks'

time and, hey presto, with a shrug they will be marching

If not, mind you, what utter

to the leaders' drum again.

Youth is given its head in the first international of 1996



Pocket genius picks up the poisoned chalice

Robert Armstrong 10st 12lb), deftly stepping inside an on-rushing flanker or on Wales' high hopes of Arwel Thomas

RWEL THOMAS is not the youngest fly-half to make his international ties - Neil Jenkins at 19 established that benchmark but the Bristol player is perhaps the most precocious tal-ent to be handed the poisoned chalice of the No. 10 shirt since the golden Seventies. When Thomas lines up against Italy in tonight's game at Cardiff Arms Park the weight of public expecta-tion will be no less than when Barry John made his debut.

If the 21-year-old student of leisure management justifies the faith Wales's new coach Kevin Bowring has shown in him he could become Wales's creative fulcrum as they determined appearance. velop their plans for the 1999 World Cup.

Phil Bennett joined the Thomas fan club after watching the former Neath half-back set up an adventurous try and drop a goal on his Courage League debut against Gloucester in October. 'I think Arwel is a natural," said Bennett. "He has a stamp of quality that gives him time to make decisions and not get flustered. He also has a touch of arrogance which is essential for the position.

At Neath his talent had won him comparison with one of that club's favourite sons. "I don't mind being compared to Jonathan Davies as a player, though the pressure got to me a bit at Neath," says Thomas. In my first game for them everyone was expecting miracles from me. I have ma-tured since joining Bristol

more confidence." Bowring believes ambitious players like Thomas are old enough for Test rugby if they are good enough, hence the introduction of five new caps whose average age is 22. "Ar-wel has terrific potential — he is spontaneous and unpredictable and hopefully will act as a catalyst to other aspects of our game," said Bowring. Thomas makes a virtue of his slight physique (5ft 7in,

challenging bullish centres like a tiny matador, because per in representative rugby. He has the knack of taking an angle of running that opens up abundant space for those around him and, notwithstanding his spindly legs, he kicks the ball a prodigious length. Just to stoke up the pressure, he will take over the injured Jenkins's goal-

kicking duties tonight. Thomas will form a new midfield trio with Leigh Davies and Matthew Wintle which, on the evidence of their club form, should not be short of pace, enthusiasm or flair. But perhaps the key selection from Thomas's perspective is the return of Wales's most capped lock Gareth Liewellyn, who should

The presence at flanker of Gwyn Jones should also make Wales more effective in recycling the ball. Bowring says: "We have to evolve a pattern of play that will revolve around an open-side flanker who can win the hall at the breakdown and an inside centre with good distribution skills. We need a pack that can provide quicker support for the backs to develop

greater continuity."
Wales, though, could have done without a controversial match poster splashed around gests they will enjoy eating Italians tonight. One Italian committee man suggested with a hint of menace, that for the Welsh to swallow.

WALES: J Thomas (Lincilii): I Evans (Lincili): L Device (Lincili). L Device (Negth). E Winder (Lincili). A Thomas (Sristol). A Moore (Cardiff). A Lewis (Cardiff). A Moore (Cardiff). A Lewis (Cardiff). J Hampibrage (Cardiff). A Lewis (Cardiff). G. Jones (Cardiff). E Lewis (Cardiff). G. Jones (Lincili). H Taylor (Cardiff). G. Jones (Lincili). H Taylor (Cardiff). E Million (Trocky). B Howevey (Bridgend). S Williams (Negth.). B Howevey (Reith). C. Jones (Reith). B Howevey (Reith). B Howevey (Reith). E Howevey (Reith). C. Jones (Swansea).

Montgomerie has seven-week handicap in the money race

David Davies

COLIN MONTGOMERIE. Seemingly European No. 1 in perpetuity, is likely to miss the first seven weeks of the 1996 season.

The Scot, who has won the Order of Merit for the last three years, was due to play in the Johnnie Walker Classic, starting in Singapore on Thursday week. But his wife Rimear is expecting to give birth to their second child next week and Montgomerie will probably withdraw both from Singapore and from the

following week.

As he was planning to take Africa (Morocco), he will be

Montgomerie did, though, play six fewer events than his fellow Scot Sam Torrance, the man he beat for the No. 1 posi-

weeks' competition before the | \$8.953 each.

Liselotte Neumann, the Swede who plays in America

won the prestigious Tourna-ment of Champions, in Orlando. Florida, by 11 shots The event, at the Grand Cypress course, is restricted to tournament winners on the years and Neumann was one of only four players to break

She led all the way, finishing with a 18-under total of 275. The Australian Karrie Webb was second on 286. Webb, the Weetabix British Women's champion, was play-ing in her first LPGA event,

having been made to go through the chore of qualify-ing for the tour. She won \$73,500 (247,500), which will ries about retaining her card for next year, while Neumann won \$117,500, which gives her won \$117,500, which gives her a good start towards winning the money list. the classes to be invited are the Laser 5000, the Topper Boss and the 49'er, all from

joint third on 287 with Missle McGeorge (\$47,750 each), while Helen Alfredsson class sailors who will (Sweden) and England's Aliing this season is that he will son Nicholas finished creditbe giving himself only four ably at joint 18th, winning

Sailing

IRYU after 11th Olympic class

Bob Fisher

HE International Yacht Racing Union is planning dramatic changes to the Olympic regatta for the 2000 Games in Sydney. They include a request for an 11th class which has been favourably received by the International Olympic Commmittee.

The favoured event would be a match-race competition for women, one which would put women's sailing ahead of the men's. where there is only a mixed fleet and match-racing event in Solings.

Reliable sources have confirmed that the IYRU is to stage a series of selection trials in September to choose a twin-trapeze dinghy. They will be held either at Hilton Head. North Carolina, or in Sydney Harbour, Among the new wave of dinghies. The trials will be adjudicated by a group of world-

report to the council. The changes will need the agreement of the IYRU's membership when its council meets in November.

Sport in brief

Rugby Union

West Hartlepool, the Courage League One's bottom club, still without a win in 10 games, have appointed Car-diff's former Wales fly-half Mark Ring as player-coach. Ring, 38, starts a three-year

contract next month. Phil Davies, Llanelli's captain and Wales' most capped forward with 46 between and 1995, has signed a £50,000a-year contract_to coach Leeds in Division Four.

John Regis has joined Linford Christie in burying the hatchet with the British Athletic Federation. The 200m runner, who with Christie and Colin Jackson boycotted meetings last summer be-cause of a pay dispute, will compete in two indoor events next month — the Ricoh Tour international at Birmingham on February 10 and the GB-France match in Glasgow a fortnight later. Christie has that we are asking the ITTF if also agreed to enter these meetings.

Hockey

Guildford's player-coach Ian Jennings, whose team won the HA Cup, and Clifton's Tammy Miller, midfielder in the Great Britain team which finished second in the Olympic Qualifying Tournament in Cape Town, are the Hockey Writers' Club poll-winners as UK Player of the Year, writes

Table Tennis

Syed in line for wild card spot

Richard Jago

ATTHEW SYED, the England No. 1, may go to the Olympic Games after all even though his thrilling performances just failed to earn a place at Atlanta from the qualifying competition in Manchester on Sunday.

Four wild cards are available from the International Table Tennis Federation for the men's singles and after the attention gained by Syed's superb victory over Jorgen Persson and the narrowest of last qualifying place against Hungary's Zoltan Batorfi, the English Table Tennis Association is making overtures to

the federation.
"We are so pleased with
Matthew and so disappointed they will put him on their list of wild cards," said the ETTA chairman Alan Ransome. For-tunately this request has been strengthened by Syed's late victory in a play-off against Piotr Skierski which made him first reserve behind the

10 qualifiers. 'Undoubtedly Matthew Syed's style of play was the performance of the tournament," said the ITTF adminstrative director Ian



Sir John's team cannot call Newcastle home

Vic Batchelder HE Sheffield Steelers' 9-3 victory over Durham Wasps ensured the winners remain top of the Premier Division this week. The defeat was not the only bad news for the Sir John Hall-

owned Wasps. Reports in the North-East at the weekend predict the Newcastle United owner will not for five years," an arena be granted planning permis- spokesman said yesterday.

sion for his proposed arena behind St James' Park, sug-gesting that the future for his team might lie in a merger with the Newcastle (formerly Whitley) Warriors, who are ensconced at the recently opened Newcastle Arena. But neither the arena nor the Warriors appear receptive to the idea of a merger.

"Our tenancy agreement is exclusively with the Warriors

Although the Warriors are bottom of the Premier Division, they appear closer to Superleague entry. "If one of the criteria for membership is possession of an arena and a healthy financial situation, then we are in the right position," said the spokesman. The Warriors slid to an 8-3

defeat on Sunday at Hull, where the Humberside Hawks gained early revenge for a 7-6 defeat at the Newcastle Arena last Wednesday.

tion last year.

hopes the biggest possible boost on Sunday when she

Western Australia, the

a break for the next five weeks anyway, when the European tour visits South Africa. Spain and northern conceding a considerable start in the money race before he starts to compete again, in the Dubai Desert Classic (March 14-17).

A further drawback regard-

There was more good news for Europe. Laura Davies was

Agassi survives a first-round scare, page 13 Clubs grant Brittle breathing space, page 15 Premier League plans to by-pass Uefa, page 14 Montgomerie delays his tee-off, page 15

SportsGuardian

ENGLAND PACE BOWLER FACES HEAVY FINE FOR ATTACK ON ILLINGWORTH

Malcolm on the carpet

Mike Selvey from Durban on the high cost of 'race' article

the Jamaica-born England and Derbowler, faces a possible £10,000 fine from the Test and County Cricket Board and suspension from county cricket following the publication yesterday of an article in which he criticises Raymond Illingworth, chairman of the England selectors. His Test career also can be

deemed to be finished.

The article, one of a series appearing in the Daily Express, alleges that Illingworth went out of his way to discourage and humiliate him during the Test series in South Africa. Malcolm. who last year was awarded a substantial sum in an out-of-court settlement with Wisden Cricket Monthly, which published an allegedly racist article, appears to have sug-gested that Illingworth was racially motivated. He said: "I have to ask: would this have happened if I had been a

white bowler?"
Yesterday Illingworth,
newly arrived here for tomorrow's fourth one-day international, was keeping his cards close to his chest. "I've got enough on my plate without worrying about this," he said. I will not comment other than to say we tried everything we could to help him.

He's just very stubborn." Although the England party is in South Africa for another week, Malcolm, not required for the limited-overs matches, was one of a number of players who returned home early. The terms of his touring contract expressly forbid him from putting his name to articles, unless first sanc-tioned by the board, but the TCCB heard of the intended article and tried to discourage Malcolm at least until the team returned home. He ignored the advice and broke



The way they were . . . Illingworth watches as Devon Malcolm tries to convince the chairman he has a cricketing brain

his contract for a sum believed to be about £10,000. Given that he ignored a warning, leniency is unlikely. But yesterday the TCCB was quick to dispel accusations of racism. "That is an offensive remark he has made," said a TCCB spokesman, Richard Little. "We always pick the best possible players and take no account of any other

But Malcolm stuck to his guns last night. "I only asked a question," he told BBC Radio 5 Live. "As the only black man there were a lot of things I had to do and the manager could have given me a lot more support.'

Little confirmed yesterday that the board had not seen the article prior to its publica-tion and therefore did not clear it. "Devon is under a contractual agreement with the board and he knows he has infringed it," he said. "We will take any action we think necessary in our own

The Derbyshire secretary Reg Taylor was "surprised" to read of Malcolm's reference to colour. "Twe never heard of that being an issue with the England team." he said, "and I don't know why he mentioned it." Malcolm, who will be 33

tinker with his run-up and action. Lever and Illingworth accused Malcolm of being a non-entity and of not having a cricketing brain. Malcolm, who was at Derbyshire's headquarters, retorted: "It is patronising to taken 100 wickets for England

Tests this winter, taking six

wickets at a cost of 32.50 runs each. He left England in Octo-ber full of optimism but be-

came involved in a public dis-

agreement with Illingworth

and the bowling coach Peter

Lever over their attempts to

and loved playing." It all ends in tears, page 14

'I have to ask — would this have happened if I had been a white bowler?

Former England fast bowlet

there is even a trace of racisa mond Illingworth and Devon Malcolm, then the TCCB should abandon thoughts of fining Devon and investigate it immed stely. It is sad that the question of colour has arisen but the history of this country makes i nevitable. Illingworth is a herd. out-and-out Yorkshireman and I can't lorget that the worst racist scapegoat for the team's fall-ures. He needed motivating, not

DON MOSEY

lllingworth's biographer; retired author and broadcaster What screaming hypocrisy Devon took action against Wisden Cricket Monthly for bringing up the issue of colour - and now he's doing exactly the same thing. It is so out of character. neone must have stirred him up, ifiv was an uncompromising captain on tour in the best poss sense. Players who give 100 per cent receive his total support, whoever they are. If he gives anyone a rough ride it is solely for the good of the team. To remotely attribute it

To learn

the Sarah

I call the

book is

expected

shortly, in

New York.

is playing

God Save

What can

this mean?

the Queen at

great volume.

She is out. Her

biographer

whose own

whether she

is worried by

DAVID GRAVENEY

General secretary, Cricketers Association; England selector As an England selector over the past year I've found no substance for any implications that Illy's decisions or behaviour are racially motivated. But I feel sympathy for Devon. The magezine article which suggested that non-white cricketers were less sinister piece of journalism and his lavour. I thought such feelings had been banished from cricket for ever. Devon was a hero in South Africa but public criticism undermined him.

JOHN SNOW

Former England last bowler: in-Ashez-winning side, led by Il-lingworth, in 1970. Raymond gave me a few rollock-

ings. It's nothing new. He once dropped me against the West wasn't trying. I reckoned it wasn't the sort of pitch where bowling flat out worked in your favour but Illy decided my attilude wasn't right. He has always Interviews by David Hopps

been a hard laskmaster.

Team games turned to blood sports



Richard Williams

Terry Venables on the retreat amid foetid gusts of scan dal. Jack Rowell, apparently soured after less than two years in the job, preparing for the match of the season by broadcasting another list of pre-emptive excuses. Ray Illingworth, with a record of two defeats and a draw in three Test series since he took charge, enduring a public exco-riation by a player whose con-

fidence he destroyed. Football, rugby, cricket: the games we teach our children supposedly as a template for life, a lesson in how to rub along together in victory or defeat. Yet who would want to hold up the Football Association, the Rugby Football Union or the Test and County Cricket Board as models for grown-up behaviour?

To see England's leadership tearing itself apart in one of the three major team sports would be regrettable. To watch it happening in two of them simulta-neously would be cause for concern. But to have all three in distress at once looks like something more than a coincidence

What it does is feed the contemporary English obsession with using sport as a metapho for the national condition.

NOTHER outbreak of navel-gazing will no doubt reveal parallels with other aspects of English life — and could one honestly say that the Archbishop of Canterbury, presiding over the last rites of the Home Secretary, passing the buck for the prisons, or even the head of state herself are showing a massively greater sense of responsibility or strategic awareness than Venables, Rowell and Illingworth? In which case the apocalypse must be upon us.

On the other hand, those of more relaxed disposition will ask, so what else is new? Look at it this way: only a couple of years ago the posi-tions currently occupied by IIlingworth, Rowell and Venables were held by Ted Dexter, Geoff Cooke and Graham Taylor — the bewitched, the bothered and the bewildered.

all men of real achievement in

each reduced to despair by the responsibility of managing a

national team. We make a huge fuss over their selection. And having installed them, we expect a mir-acle this season, please. A man-ager who takes a long-term view at the expense of the immediate future, as the hapless Dexter did when he sat uncomplainingly — and for minimal reward — on numberless committees in an effort to alter the deep structure of English cricket, will find himself "harpooned and lampooned", in his own phrase, when a few early iefeats do not swiftly turn into world domination.

the game of humilia-tion seems to have become a sport in its own right, conducted as part of the circulation battle between the tabloid newspapers. There is now a small group of men known to have declined jobs for which they are well quali-fied, motivated by a justifiable unwillingness to expose them-selves to a level of personal scrutiny that no one should be asked to endure this side of

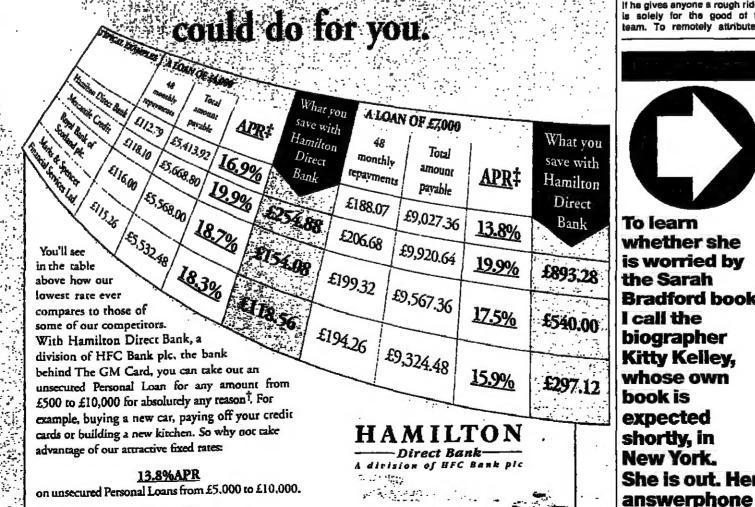
heaven's gate. Perhaps the spirit of gleeful vengeance with which we greet failure has something to do with the fact that these are games we taught the world, and no amount of contrary evidence seems able to dissuade us from an assumption of permanent natural superiority. This is where the idea of sport as a metaphor for the national

condition really holds up. There certainly does not seem to be a formula to help those charged with appointing our leaders. Background, experience, whether of life or sport, and geography appear to have little influence. We've tried the officer class (Dexter) and the

NCOs (Venables). We've tried people so involved in their sport that they appear never to have entertained a thought beamed in from the outside world (Illingworth) and those with a record of significant achievement in Real Life (Rowell). We've tried people who were brilliant play ers and others who played the game mostly in their hea We've tried north (Cooke) and south (Venables again) and somewhere in between

It is hard to avoid the thought that there is a connection here with the unreal amounts of money now flood-ing into these three sports, the sort of sudden prosperity that distorts perspectives and ex-pectations. Which is why, in 996, our true national game is led and symbolised not by Ven-ables or Rowell or Illingworth but by Anthea Turner.

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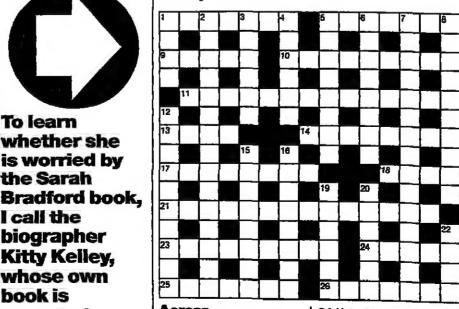
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Guardian Crossword No 20,550

Set by Gordius



1 Riots surprise church inclined to bury head in the sand (7) 5 Poor sap has difficulty

9 Said to be rough diamond. perhaps (5) 10 Victor certainly, William possibly (9)

coming to the point (7)

11 I saw to the press review of

17 One last hope, almost, for treatment (8)

21 Giver of lasting fellowship to one criminal on Good Friday 23 Vessel in race qualified to

13 Title of 20, age about 10 (4) 14 Penalty clause? (8)

18 Stove right for making jelly

hold record (9)

25 Dons wear as Doctor of

26 What's left on bed of river in fluctuating tides (7) Down

Letters? (7)

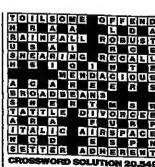
1 Curse emanating from boathouse (4)

2 Rely on getting home for tea without a caterer (5.5,5) 3 Damage caused by one politician proadcasting? (6)

4 The ace of witches (6) 5 Girl gets a drink, treated finally, like the glass (8)

6 Hindrance in the way of a game (8) 7 Lacking male parent she is

gone up the spout (15) 8 Holy one undone by admitting guilt, and the fruit thereof (10)



12 Spirit of Gordius, your departed daughter (10) 15 Instrument set up is ravishing (8)

16 Tin, sort of basin or pot (8) 19 Over the limit? It may cause annoyance (6)

20 Piece of the cloth (6) 22 Feature of Nine O'Clock Service with time for service at noon? (4)

Solution tomorrow

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